



Who will be our heroes?
What will be our favorites?
Which medals will be won?

Olympic glory waits for all

Pages 2-7



World media will turn their lenses on Beijing tonight as the Olympics begin. But the competitions come years in the making. Beijing Today caught up with several ambassadors, reporters and athletes to hear the stories behind their Olympic dreams.



"HAPPY HOUR" EVERYDAY! 2/4/1 - 4/2/8

GOOSE "N" DUCK SPORTS PUB & ARENA

"WE FEED THE NEED"

AT A FAIR PRICE!

CHAO YANG PARK EAST GUANHU GARDEN TOWER S1
朝阳公园桥东北角观湖国际写字楼一号首层



59283045/46/47

北京青年报
BEIJING YOUTH DAILY

Under the auspices of the Information Office of Beijing Municipal Government ■ Run by Beijing Youth Daily ■ President: Zhang Yanping ■ Editor in Chief: Zhang Yabin ■ Executive Deputy Editor in Chief: He Pingping
Director: Jian Rong ■ Price: 2 yuan per issue ■ 26 yuan for 3 months ■ Address: No.25, Building A, Baijiazhuang Dongli, Chaoyang District, Beijing, China ■ Zip Code: 100026 ■ Telephone/Fax: (010) 65902525
E-mail: bjtoday@ynet.com ■ Hotline for subscription: (010) 67756666 (Chinese), (010) 65902626 (English) ■ Overseas Code Number: D1545 ■ Overseas Distribution Agent: China International Book Trading Corporation



By Huang Daohen

Tonight, the world's eyes will be on Beijing for the opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympics.

Watchers from home and abroad have been following Olympic developments, like Iraq's return to competition and swimmer Michael Phelps' bid to win eight

gold medals.

But the big stories among a record 205 participating delegations are too much for international media. *Beijing Today* talked to delegation chiefs and ambassadors about their concerns, expectations and goals for this year's Games.

Behind the quest for the gold

France

flag-bearer the focus of a nation

By Zheng Lu

French people have cause to celebrate tonight, when favorite athlete Tony Estanguet raises the flag of the French delegation at the Beijing's National Stadium.

Estanguet shoulders France's gold medal expectations.

As a double Olympic gold medal canoeist in Sydney and Athens, Estanguet is the only whitewater canoeist to successfully defend his Olympic title. This time, he hopes to become the first French athlete to win three successive championships.

The kayak is the Estanguet family's traditional sport. Estanguet's father Henri won medals at the world championships 30 years ago. And his older brother Patrice won a bronze in the canoe slalom singles event at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics.

Although Estanguet has the strength to prosper, his rival Michal Martikan from Slovakia, who won a gold medal at Atlanta, is also a strong candidate for the champion.

The Beijing site flows rapidly and unpredictably, and will pose a challenge for him and other athletes.

Britain

sailing to victory

By Jackie Zhang

For Great Britain, sailing is its strongest event. In the 2004 Athens Olympics, British athletes won four gold medals in sailing competitions. This time, their goal is to win five to six gold medals.

Ben Ainslie is a two-time gold medalist for the single-handed dinghy. This time, he is striving for his third gold medal in the competition. Sarah Ayton, Shirley Robertson, and Sarah Webb are the three competitive women sailors to win the Keelboat competition.

"The team's preparations have been absolute, and they are confident of being able to handle the varying, challenging conditions which they've come to expect at the coastal city of Qingdao," Stephen Park, the sailing team manager, said.

The bicycle competition is another strong field for Britain. The Scotsman said four of the top 10 British athletes — Chris Hoy, Bradley Wiggins, Shanaze Reade, and Victoria Pendleton — are likely to win gold medals in the cycling competition.

As the origin of the equestrian event, British athletes are well-positioned to win medals. Tom Daley, the 14-year-old diver, is considered a potential gold medal competitor for 10m plat-

form. Beth Tweddle is expected to win the first gold medal in gymnastics for the country.

Portugal

hopes for four medals

By Zheng Lu

"Our athletes are expected to win four medals," Rui Quartin-Santas, the Portuguese ambassador, said.

He said the country has sent 78 athletes, four of whom are favored to win a medal.

Vanessa Fernandes, 22, is a top seed in the triathlon. She is the first woman athlete who has won 20 world championships and is the most hopeful gold.

Naide Gomes is favored in the long jump. Beijing will be Gomes' third Olympic appearance. Nelson Evora and Francis Obikwelu are also the popular athletes who will probably win medals for Portugal. Evora claimed gold in the triple jump at the 2007 World Championships.

"We will be proud if our ath-



Tony Estanguet is to win France a gold in kayak slalom event.

IC Photo

letes can win any medals — no matter whether they are gold, silver or bronze," Quartin said.

He also said Telma Monteir, a Portuguese judoka and senior European champion, is in the under-52kg category. "She is a strong candidate and may perform well," Ambassador said.

Norway

women's team hopes to regain glory

By Wang Yu

Although javelin throw, swimming, mountain-biking and sailing remain the Norwegian team's strong points, this summer in Beijing, the Norwegian women's soccer team may grab more attention as it seeks to regain its throne.

Norway has always been a

Europe

As the origin of Olympics, Europe is the biggest participant in the sporting saga. The continent dominates the medal tally, and it will not be an exception in Beijing.



Amanda Ratcliffe will lead the British team in equestrian events.

CFP Photo

strong force in Women's Football. Its laurels include an Olympic gold in Sydney, a bronze in Atlanta and one World Cup in 1995 on Swedish soil. But since summer 2000, the champions became weaker and weaker, to the point where they failed to qualify for Athens.

The Norwegians still face the issue of mixing new blood with experienced veterans, only one of whom was born in the 1970s. In the last World Cup, the team lost the semifinal against Germany. This time, it set a training base in Tianjin, one of the co-host cities. Its main goal is to stay in the top four and vie for a medal.

Sweden

strives for an 8th medal

By Zhang Dongya

As many as 133 Swedish athletes will compete at the 2008

Summer Olympics in Beijing. The Sweden handball team and women's soccer team offset the gender balance in the ladies' favor for this Olympiad.

Sweden won seven medals at Athens, with four golds, one silver and two bronzes.

"Swedish people are enthusiastic about this Olympics, and every event with an athlete from Sweden will be of interest to our people," Karin Hamberg, the team spokeswoman, said.

A total 20 Swedish athletes were selected as the most likely to achieve success by *Sweden Daily*, one of the country's biggest national newspapers. The picks include sharpshooter and world recorder holder Hakan Dahlby, Stefan Holm and the gold medal winner on high jump of last Olympic Games.

Canoeing is another important game for Sweden. Markus Oscarsson and Henrik Nilsson won the gold

medal in the men's canoe double 1,000m in the 2004 Olympics.

Austria

table tennis players psych up to face motherland

By Milo Lee

Three of Austria's table tennis players share a common trait: they are all of Chinese descent.

The most promising star, Liu Jia, ranks 13th in the world. Li Qiangbing used to be on the Chinese national team. Chen Weixing, who played ping pong in China, is now the second seed on Team Austria.

After playing abroad for so many years, the Beijing Olympics will be a kind of homecoming. The currently 16th-place world-ranking Werner Schlager has vowed to defeat China again beating two top players in 2003.

This year, the Austrian Olympic Committee assembled a team of 72 athletes to compete in Beijing, making it the smallest squad since 1976. In the last two Olympics, Austria took four gold medals, three of them in sailing. Among the 72, record-holding swimmer Markus Rogan and beach volleyball player Clemens Doppler will compete in the upcoming events.

Belgium

back in field hockey after 32 years

By Annie Wei

Since the men's field hockey team participated in the Montreal Olympics in 1976, Belgium has not qualified for any Olympic-level team sport. The Belgium Olympic International Committee (BOIC) declared 2007 to be the "Year of Olympic team sports."

The push was effective, and Belgium qualified for Olympic soccer and hockey. Adam Commens, the coach for Belgium's men's hockey team, said he believed the team would perform well.

As part of the preparations for the Olympics, Belgium, bronze medalists at the 1920 Antwerp Olympics, have short-listed 20 players including veteran defender Thierry Renaer, who has played 313 internationals for his country and 17-year old Felix Denayer.

Commens said Renaer's presence would lend experience to the team's defense, and Denayer has potential as a center.

Conditions in Chennai are similar to what is expected in Beijing, and since Belgium was not slated to play many tournaments in the run-up to the Games, the Indian sojourn was a key element in its preparations, Commens said.

Belgium sent 94 athletes and 150 journalists for the games.

Continued on page 3 ...

... Continued from page 2

Italy

seeks to hold its ground

By He Jianwei

In Athens, Italy took 32 medals and ranked 8th in the tally. Its goal for the Beijing Games is to match these results, but that may prove quite a challenge, an official said before the opening ceremony of Beijing's Olympic Games.

"In this Olympic Games, the Chinese athletes will try their best to get more medals, and the countries behind Italy in the last Games will be trying to pass us by, so our area to work in is shrinking," Giovanni Petrucci, president of Italian Olympic Committee, said.

"If we can get about 30 medals and list 8th place, it will prove we have done well in Beijing," he said.

Italy will not attend the events of basketball, baseball and softball, so Petrucci said the goal will be even more challenging.

Soccer, volleyball and fencing are where Italy has an advantage. Its men's soccer team won the gold medal in the Olympic Games 72 years ago. In the last Games, it won a bronze medal. In Beijing, the team will be counting on Riccardo Montolivo, a skilled midfielder with an eye for passes and a powerful right-footed shot.

Germany

aims to beat its last performance

By He Jianwei

Germany took 14 gold medals and ranked 6th in the Athens tally. Its goal for Beijing is to match or surpass its last results, an official from the German sports delegation said.

After the union of East and West, Germany took 100 medals in its first Olympic Games in 1992 in Barcelona. "We took less than 50 medals in Athens. We must stop the downward slide. If we can be place 5th or 6th, we will be happy," Michael Vesper, chief of the German delegation, said.

Germany is favored in men's volleyball, men's handball and women's soccer. Vesper hopes Germany will win medals in the team events.

It is traditionally favored in the equestrian and shooting events, as well as canoeing, rowing, artistic gymnastics, athletics, table tennis and cycling.

Germany has sent a delegation consisting of 435 athletes to Beijing.

Greece

eager to re-enact its myths

By Han Manman

Greece finished 15th on its home soil, and the country hopes its luck will continue this year.

Stelios Korkidis, attache to the Hellenic Olympic Committee, said the country is hopeful for medals in the women's triple jump, where it will send silver medalist Hrysopiya Devetzi, and in the men's 400m hurdles.

The defending Olympic champion will return for this year's women's 20km walk, and judoka Ilias Iliadis, a gold medalist in the Judo 81kg category in Athens, will carry the Greek flag at the Olympics opening ceremony.

"We believe our basketball team will do a very good job this time," Korkidis said, adding that the team won the



Fencer Carolin Golubytskyi of Germany has her eye on the gold. IC Photo

silver at the 2006 world championship. As the 2004 European champions, the Greek men's football team is also expected to add medals for Greece.

Bulgaria

cherishes its Olympic hope

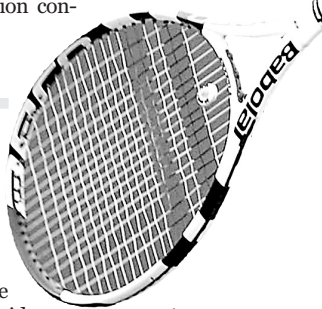
By Zhang Dongya

Having achieved its biggest success in the 1980 Games in Moscow, Bulgaria fell throughout the 1990s to taken 12 medals at Athens.

A total of 72 athletes participating in 15 events are to represent the country this month. Unfortunately, all 11 athletes on the Bulgarian weightlifting team – eight men and three women – were dropped from the Olympics after testing positive for a banned anabolic steroid last month.

Maria Grozdeva, who competed in the 25m pistol and the 10m air pistol events and the only Bulgarian contestant with five medals from four Olympics, is widely viewed as one of the possible medalists. She is the strongest rival to Chinese shooters.

In track-and-field, Ivet Lalova and Tezdan Naimova will compete in the 100m and 200m dashes. Naimova will make her Olympics debut this year. Bulgaria also has high hopes for its 13 wrestlers, rhythmic gymnasts and its men's volleyball



team.

Matei Kaziiski, a volleyball team member, said his team has "the strength to become champions."

The country sent 28 reporters to cover the Games, including 24 from Bulgaria National Radio and Television and four others from the Labor Daily and the 24 Daily newspapers.

Europe

Croatia

Gender balance of team out of whack

By Wang Yu

Croatia sent out its Olympic team on July 28. The team, which is considered the biggest team in its Olympic history, includes 105 competitors and several gold medal hopefuls.

"We already accomplished one goal, because we are sending more than 100 athletes. Now everything depends on the athletes," Zlatko Matesa, head of Croatian Olympic Committee, said.

"The number of athletes was 103 at first, but one fell ill and another three are backups," Gordana Gacefa, press attache of the Croatian Embassy, said.

There are 19 female participants among the 105 athletes. Blanka Vlasic, the world women's high-jump champ, hopes to break her own record this month. She became a world champion at the 2007 World Championships in Athletics with a jump of 2.05m.

The imbalance of gender is due to Croatian men's domination in basketball, handball and water polo.

Hungary

don't underestimate Hungary

By Huang Daohen

The Hungarian delegation should not be underestimated, even though the country has a population of only 10 million and sent fewer athletes this time, Hungarian Olympic Committee President Pal Schmitt said.

While the country sent 215 athletes to Athens, the delegation this year has dropped to 170. Schmitt said the reduction will not affect the outcome, as the remaining athletes are all the top of their class.

Canoeing, fencing, Judo and wrestling are where Hungary traditionally dominates. Though two-time Olympic champion canoeist Gyory Kolonics died in a training accident last month, Schmitt said the team will not be affected.

Hungary won six flatwater medals in Athens and is trying for its third straight men's

K-4 1,000 gold in Beijing

Schmitt predicted the Hungarian delegation will finish at 15th place on the medal list with six gold, six silver and six bronze medals.

Poland

pursues better results in Beijing

By Annie Wei

Poland has always been a strong competitor in the Olympics Games. It participated in all the Games except in 1984 Los Angeles. Traditionally, sports like weightlifting, track and field, canoeing, wrestling, boxing, football and shooting are where Poles excel.

For the next two weeks, Poland will pin its hopes on Otylia Jedrzejczak, who won a gold in the 200m butterfly and another two silvers in Athens, where Poland took three golds, two silvers and five bronzes.

For this Olympiad, Poland has sent 263 athletes and 400 members of the Olympic delegation. It is the biggest delegation Poland has sent since the Moscow Olympics in 1980. Over 200 Polish journalists have come to Beijing to cover the event.

Romania

handball and gym to be hotspots

By Zheng Lu

Steliana Nistor, 19, is the 2007 world all-round silver medalist in gymnastics who won three apparatus titles in the Romanian competition. She is the new star of Romania's women team with her masterful skills on the balance beam and bars. This year will be her Olympic debut.

In the men's competition, Marian Dragulescu, who won three medals in Athens, hopes to add to his collection. This is his third, and perhaps final Olympics. He has won six world championship medals in total, but none in the Olympics. "I hope him to be successful this time," Costin Pruna, a reporter from Romania Antenna 1, said.

The Romanian Handball Association said it aims for the women's handball team to make it to the finals and win a medal. Beijing will be its third Olympic appearance following Montreal and Sydney, where it placed fourth and seventh.

Spain

hungry for 6 golds

By Gan Tian

The Spanish team, 259 people, arrived in Beijing at the beginning of this month.

Alejandro Blanco, president of the Spanish Olympic Committee, said in a meeting in Madrid's Hotel last month that he expects his country to win six gold medals in the Beijing Olympics.

Spanish athletics chief Jose Maria Odriozola said the team is the world's finest at football, tennis, basketball, handball and cycling.

Cyclist Alberto Contador won the Giro d'Italia in June and Carlos Sastre won in the Tour de France last weekend. Juan Carlos Higuero, Arturo Casado and Reyes Estevez also bring hopes of a gold medal in the men's 1,500m.

Continued on page 4 ...

Rafael Nadal is Spain's gold hopeful in the tennis event.

CFP Photo

Europe

... Continued from page 3

Russia

aims to top the tally

By Venus Lee

Leonid Tyagachev, chairman of the Russian Olympic Committee (ROC), said the Russian Olympic team expects to top the tally at the Beijing Games.

"Despite the high level of competition, we aim to win one more gold medal than China and finish first in the medal tally," he said. The country's goal is no less than 80.

The Russian Olympic Team aims to win medals in boxing, wrestling, rhythmic gymnastics, shooting, synchronized swimming, weightlifting, fencing and athletics.

They have dispatched many well-known contestants such as Yelena Isinbayeva, one of the world's top athletes and leader of the Russian track and field team.

On the men's side, 800m Olympic champion Yuri Borzakovsky hopes to successfully defend his title. World champions Mavlet Batirov, Khadjimourat Gatsalov and Alexei Michine will prove their power in wrestling. They are aiming for five more golds than they won in Athens.

According to the All-Sport news agency, Russia's boxing team is hoping to return from the Games with six medals, including three golds, two silvers and one bronze. However, head coach Alexander Lebzyak is predicting that this will be the toughest Olympics yet for Russia's boxers.

In addition to Russia's "traditional" Olympic sports, Russia also hopes to impress in some of the world's most popular ball sports. Both Russia's women's and men's basketball teams will be hoping for continued success

on the international stage.

The total of 467 Russian athletes will compete in 244 out of 302, and the Russian Olympic delegation, consisting of more than 900 people, is the most populous delegation in Russian Olympic history.

Belarus

wants more medals

By Milo Lee

Belarus ranked 26th in the Athens tallies. Four years later, it plans to try and make it into the top 20.

Jumping ahead six rankings may seem like an unrealistic goal, but not when a team has Athens' women's 100m winner Yulia Nestsarenka and Table Tennis star Vladimir Samsonov. They and their 180 fellow athletes will compete in 26 sports.

Track and field, weightlifting, rowing and cycling are where Belarus athletes hope to win. In the last Olympics, weightlifter Andrei Rybakou won a silver in the men's 85 kg. This year, he will battle with his Chinese counterpart Lu Yong for the title of strongest man.

Before declaring sovereignty, many Belarusian athletes competed on the USSR team, and some athletes were four or six-times Olympic champions. Belarus first attended the Olympics in 1996. Since then, it gradually has moved in on the sports arena.

Holland

aims for top 10

By He Jiamwei

Holland's goal at Beijing is to make it into the top 10. South Korea, Spain, Hungary and Japan stand in its way.

Cycling is where Holland traditionally has an edge. The officials from the Dutch Olympic delegation said Dutch athletes

would win the most medals in this event. "We will try out best to win nine medals in cycling," Charles van Commenee, performance director of the Dutch Olympic team, said.

Its shining star is Pieter van den Hoogenband, who won three gold medals, two silvers and two bronzes in the past two Olympiads. Hoogenband is 30 years old, and Beijing will be his last Olympics.

He quit the 200m freestyle to focus on the 100m. He hopes to win his third gold medal in the men's 100m freestyle in Beijing.

Holland's delegation includes about 240 athletes.

Turkey

trains the strongest weightlifters

By Jin Zhu

Weightlifting is the most popular competitive sport in Turkey. Nurcan Taylan and her compatriot Sibel Ozkan are the dark horses among four lifters on Turkish team.

Before leaving for Beijing, Taylan, who won the gold in the women's 48kg category in Athens, told Turkish media she is determined to defend her title. "I am coming close to breaking records in training," she said. "I want to make history again. I believe God will give me what I deserve, because I tried so hard."

Sibel Ozkan will also compete in the 48kg class. Despite her rookie status, Ozkan aims for the weightlifting gold. In an interview after training on August 4, she said she had already broken three world records in training.

The women's 48 kilogram class competition will be held on August 9, the first day after

the official opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympics.

According to the IOC in Turkey, there are 68 athletes in Turkish delegation. In Athens, Turkey grabbed 10 medals with 4 golds. It aims for more gold this time.

Ukraine

sinks US \$300 mln in preparation

By He Jiamwei

The Ukraine's win of 23 medals at Athens inspired its government to invest US \$300 million in getting the Ukrainian team ready for the Beijing Games.

Last year, it bought new training equipment for the athletes, hired skilled coaches and scientific researchers to be in charge of training and made specific plans for athletes to deal with the time lag, weather and dining customs.

The Ukraine has taken 219 medals since it first attended the Olympic Games in 1952. The

delegation said it cannot predict where it will win this year, but that it has strong teams in Judo, artistic gymnastics, wrestling, athletics, boxing, swimming, sailing and rowing.

The country's delegation has 440 athletes.

Anna Pavlova of Russia will compete on the balance beam at this month's Games.

CFP Photo



BEIJING TODAY

Weekly

News

The same warmth and cold throughout the globe

Focus
Outlook
Business
DebateSee Through the Appearance To Perceive the Essence
Hear all parties
Development is of overriding importance
Seek common ground while reserving differences

BEIJING TODAY

Published every Friday, 24 pages, selling at China Post Newsstands
2 Yuan per copy and 104 Yuan for one year subscription
Tel: 010-65902526, 65902626
Email: btsubscription@ynet.com

US

on the Olympic battlefield

By Jackie Zhang

The US delegation is one of the strongest in the Olympic Games. For years, it has ranked first on the Olympic medal list. But no matter how many victories the US team claims, it still sees the Games as a challenge.

"Once the competitions begin, the Games becomes a battle." Charles Cater Lee, chef de mission for the 2008 US Olympic Team, said.

"From a sports perspective, this will be one of the most competitive and dramatic Olympic Games in history," Lindsay Dewart, a spokesperson for the US committee, said. "Given the support and resources China is pouring into its sports system, plus the fact that they're competing at home, it is clearly the favorite."

Swimming and track and field are the US team's strong suits. These events are why the US always tops the medals list. In

the Athens Olympic Games, they won 12 gold medals in swimming and 8 in track and field. US swimmer Michael Phelps aims to win 8 gold medals in the Beijing Olympic Games.

The track and field team already has 46 Olympic and world champion gold medalists, including Tyson Gay, Shawn Crawford and Jeremy Wariner. The 110m hurdler David Oliver is Liu Xiang's strongest rival.

In softball, basketball, diving and gymnastics, the US team is poised to win more medals.

"Americans are excited about the Olympic Games - to cheer on our athletes, but also to learn more about China as it opens its doors to host the world," Dewart said.

America

The US has won the most gold medals at every Summer Olympics since 1996. Will it claim this honor again? Only time will tell.

Cuba

aims for top ranks

By Zhang Dongya

"In the 2008 Beijing Olympics, we are aiming to enter the top ranks of strong sports countries in the world," Jose Ramon Fernandez, president of the Cuban Olympic Committee, said in an interview with Xinhua.

Cuba has several strong teams in boxing, volleyball and baseball. Perez Fernandez Mario, a press officer with the Cuban team, said the forthcoming Games were "full of expectations."

Its delegation of 165 athletes will compete in 16 events, including swimming, boxing, volleyball and shooting.

Cuba is the boxing champ, with almost a third of the gold medals falling into its hands every Olympiad. This year's 10 boxers are all fighting for the first time.

Cubans have also pinned high hopes on

their wrestling team to win medals in Beijing. Miguel Quintana, who won the gold in the men's 60kg freestyle at Athens, said he is aiming for another in Beijing.

The contest between Cuban athlete Dayron Robles and China's Liu Xiang in the 110 meters hurdles is one of the most anticipated events. As holder of the current world record, Robles is Liu Xiang's main competitor in the quest for Olympic gold.

The final match in the Olympic 110 meters hurdles will be on August 21 at the Bird's Nest. "I know my race against Liu will be one of the greatest attractions at the Games," Robles said.

In Athens, Cuba has captured 27 medals, including 9 golds, ranking 11th in the medal list. Cuban President Fernandez said their goal this year is to keep or beat that placing.

Canada

first time in the Olympic soccer event

By Jackie Zhang

The Canadian football team has made it to the Olympic Games for the first time. After Mexico kept them from making it to Athens, the Canadian women's team beat Mexico soundly to score entry into the Beijing Olympics.

In swimming, Brent Hayden won the 100m freestyle swimming event in the 2007 World Championship and the bronze medal at the 4X200 freestyle swimming relay. He is expected to perform well in Beijing.

In the Athens, Canadian athletes excelled in diving, artistic gymnastics, cycling, the triathlon, softball and rowing. They are expected to achieve even more this time.

Argentina

defending champs in football and basketball

By Venus Lee

Historically, Argentina's most popular sport is football. This year, the Argentine football team is in Beijing to defend the gold medal it won in Athens, Cesar Mayoral, ambassador of the Argentine Republic, said.

With the participation of forwards Sergio Aguero (Atletico Madrid-Spain), Lionel Messi (Barcelona-Spain), Laurato Acosta (Sevilla-Spain) and Ezequiel Lavezzi (Napoli-Italy), the coun-

try's football team has reached an unprecedented strength.

The Argentine Olympic Basketball Team has NBA stars Manu Ginobili, Fabricio Oberto, Luis Scola, Carlos DelFINO and Andres Nocioni on its side to defend the gold it won in Athens.

Although football and basketball are the events Argentinians care most about, the country's tennis, field hockey and polo teams are equally formidable.

Venezuela

old athlete a symbol of sport

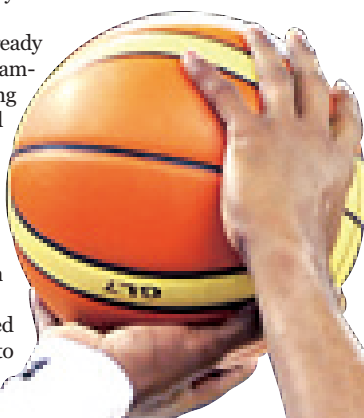
By Wang Yu

Julio Ce'sar Le'on is in Beijing, 60 years after his participation in the last London Games.

He has come with the Venezuelan Olympic team of 109 athletes, who affectionately refer to the man as their "110th team member." Le'on, who was born in Caracas, was the first Venezuelan athlete to compete in an Olympic event.

The old man is seen as a symbol of Venezuela's sporting spirit. The country's 109-person team, with an average age of 15, will take part in 20 events out of the total 27. "This is our biggest team yet and we are so proud of it," Camacho said.

The team's only table tennis player, Fabiola Ramos, may come under local scrutiny as he was trained by a Chinese coach.



Kobe Bryant will lead the Dream Eight in the Games.

Xinhua Photos

Brazil

pursuing gold in teams events

By He Jianwei

Brazil won 10 medals in Athens. This time around, Brazil is focusing on team events, such as volleyball, beach volleyball and soccer.

Although Brazil has won several World Cups, it has never won a gold medal in Olympic soccer. For this Olympics, Brazil sent a strong soccer team to Beijing, including the super star Ronaldinho.

"Most of our players played in European leagues and they haven't had enough time to train together," Marcus Vinicius Freire, the head of the Brazilian delegation, said.

Freire was more positive about volleyball and beach volleyball. The Brazilian men's team was the volleyball champ in Athens.

This year's Brazilian delegation is the largest ever with 277 athletes.



Brazil sent a strong soccer team this time.

Chile

aiming for tennis gold

By Annie Wei

Chile, the first South American country to open diplomatic relations with China, has never been a strong contender for Olympic medals.

Popular sports in Chile are soccer, skiing and surfing. However, tennis is where Chileans have a chance to shine at the Games.

Fernando Gonzalez and Nicolas Massu won the gold medals in the men's tennis double at Athens - Chile's first ever Olympic gold. The country hopes to continue its achievement this year.

It also has an

optimistic outlook for the women's shot put. Two months ago, Chilean athlete Natalia Duco dominated the field at the World Junior Championships, which set the South American women's record with a shot put of 18.65 meters in Iquique.

Although Duco will find tougher competition at the games, it will still be a good experience for her and give her a point to prepare for in the 2012 and 2016 Games. After all, she is currently 19.

The country sent 27 sportsmen, including athletes, for the Beijing Games. They are accompanied by 30 journalists, the embassy said.

Asia

The East has been sports-crazed with the return of the Olympics to Asia. China is expected to top the medal list, and India may win its first ever Olympic gold.

Japan

says 10 golds or bust

By Yu Shanshan

From team leaders and mass media to the Japanese people, most are skeptical that Japan can beat its Athens performance, where it took 16 gold, nine silvers and 12 bronzes – a historic win for the island nation.

At Wednesday's press conference in Japan House, Tomiaki Fukuda, chief of the Japanese delegation, discreetly repeated their bottom line: at least 10 golds and more than 30 medals.

Japan sent a 339-athlete delegation to China, including 170 men and 169 women athletes, its biggest ever.

Judo, wrestling, athletics, swimming and gymnastics are the five in which they have the biggest hope for golds.

According to Mainichi, in the four years since Athens, Japan has opened the doors to golds in weightlifting, fencing and badminton.

The top heroes are Ryoko Tani, Kitajima Kosuke and the baseball team. Leading heroine of Japanese Judo Tani, 33, has seven world titles and is going for her third straight title in the women's under-48kg division.

The Yomiuri predicted 12 golds for Japan, to be won by Ryoko Tani in the women's Judo under-48kg division, Suzuki Keiji in the men's 100kg, Kitajima Kosuke in the 100 and 200m breaststroke, Noguchi Mizuki in the women's marathon, Yoshida Saori in the women's freestyle wrestling 55kg, Icho Kaori in the women's freestyle wrestling 63kg, Koji Murofushi in the hammer throw, baseball, softball, and men's gymnastics, both team and solo.

That its neighbor is hosting this year's Games has aroused special interest in the island nation.

South Korean

striving for the first gold in Olympic swimming

By Jackie Zhang

Park Tae-hwan is regarded as the Liu Xiang of South Korea. The 19 year old is expected to win the first gold medal in swimming for his country in Olympic history.

Park won the gold medal in 400m freestyle swimming last year. It is was South Korea's first gold medal in a world-class swimming competition. "My goal is the 400m freestyle swimming gold medal this time. I want to break the world record," he said last Sunday while practicing in the National Aquatic Center.

The country is best known for its archery. Its goat this year is to sweep every gold in the event. South Korea's women's archery team has always been ranked highest.

Taekwondo is South Korea's national sport, but since only one person is allowed to compete in the Olympic Games at each level, the country has been unable to use it to its advantage. In 2007 World Championships, South Korea won four gold medals, four silvers and four bronzes. For the Beijing Olympic Games, the team's goal is to win at least 2 golds.

India

struggling for the first gold

By Han Manman

India looks set to put up a fight and brush aside its poor record, Indian Ambassador Nirupama Rao said. The team aims for its first ever gold in Beijing.

Indian Olympic Association (IOA) president Suresh Kalmadi said he is optimistic about India's performance this time, especially, in tennis, archery and boxing.

The ambassador said Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, the only Indian athlete to win a silver medal at Athens Olympics, has been selected to be India's flag bearer at the 2008 Beijing Olympics opening ceremony. He is the country's hope for a gold this turn.

The country has sent a team of swimmers for this year's games. Virdhawal Khade, 16, the new teen sensation, is the youngest hopeful to keep the Indian flag aloft in the Beijing Olympics. The boy made the 200m freestyle mark at the world championships in Melbourne last year, when he became the youngest Indian to do so at the age of 15.



Ryoko Tani of Japan celebrates winning the gold medal in the women's Judo 48 kg class gold medal contest on August 14, 2004.

Getty Images

Iraq

a symbolic Olympic entry

By Han Manman

"It does not matter what we will achieve at the Games. The important thing is we are here," Iraqi athlete Dana Hussein said when she arrived Monday midnight.

Her arrival was threatened by car bombers and gunmen.

Hussein and another three athletes, as well as seven officials, received a warm welcome at the airport from a crowd of jubilant Iraqis waving flags and flowers. "It's all like a dream. Their coming made us feel like we went from darkness to sunshine," Hawre Nasrddah, one of the Iraqis in the crowd, said.

Iraq was banned in late July when the government disbanded the country's National Olympic Committee in lieu of an assembly dispute. Towards the end of last week, the IOC announced that four athletes – discus thrower Haidar Nasir, sprinter Dana Hussein and double sculls crew Haidar Nozad and Hamzah Hussein Jebur – would be allowed to compete in Beijing.

Hussein, 21, the only female of the four Iraqi athletes, will take part in the 100 and 200 meters, she will be the third Iraqi woman to go to the Games in Iraqi history.

The athletes said their medal prospects were dim because of the inherent difficulty of training in their country. Various athletes have been kidnapped and killed in Iraq since 2003. When she was initially banned, her coach sought to console her by saying she could always enter the 2012 Games. "Who can guarantee that I will live to 2012?" she sobbed.

"We did not come here for the medals. What is important is that Iraqi athletes take part in the Games, together with those from other countries," Iraqi Ambassador to China Mohammad Ismail said.

The ambassador confirmed that one judoka, one weightlifter and one archer that had waited in Kuwait for a decision from IOC on whether they could participate in their events have already been back to Iraq.

Iran

dominated by strength

By Milo Lee

Iran is home to one of the world's oldest continuous major civilizations and some of its strongest athletes.

Freestyle wrestling has been called Iran's national sport. In the past three Olympic Games, the country took six gold medals in weightlifting, wrestling and Taekwondo. This year, with some old faces and new players, Iran is expected to continue to rise in the tally.

Fifty-two athletes will participate in freestyle and Greco-Roman wrestling, Taekwondo, Judo, weightlifting, archery, track and field, discus, rowing, boating, cycling, table tennis, boxing and the shot-put.

Iran may not be the strongest country, but it cannot be overlooked in strength-based events.

Indonesia

high hopes to win badminton gold medals

By Jin Zhu

Indonesian athletes are fully prepared for the Beijing Olympics and are nourishing hopes for a gold in badminton.

Taufik Hidayat, who recently had dengue, arrived in Beijing on schedule. His return shoulders the expectations of Indonesian badminton fans. Since Taufik won the gold in the men's single at the Athens, his Beijing appearance is a fight to retain that title.

As the premier badminton nation, Indonesia has always captured a gold medal since the sport was first played at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.

"We only send athletes who have a chance of winning a medal," Adiyaksa Dault, the national sport minister, said in an interview with Xinhua.

The Indonesian delegation has 24 qualified athletes, and they will compete in badminton, weightlifting, track and field, swimming and sailing. They expect golds in badminton and weightlifting.

Palestine

an arduous journey to the Olympics

By Milo Lee

For Palestinian athletes, being in Beijing to compete with world-class sportsmen is already a victory.

Four months ago, distance runner Nader Masri was forbidden to leave Gaza to train for the Olympics, and with no proper training facilities, he could only run along the Gaza Strip, avoiding donkey carts and holes in the ground at the same time. Sprinter Ghadeer Ghuruf, 17, was born with deformed ankles, a condition corrected only seven years ago.

The other two swimmers that made up the Palestinian Olympic Team of four, Zakiya Nassar and Hamse Abdouh, received no better training than the runners. Nassar could only swim once a month in a pool at best, while Abdouh's swimming pool less than half the size of a standard Olympic pool.

Bahrain

seeking to make a breakthrough

By Venus Lee

Although Bahrain has never won a medal since it first entered the Olympics in 1984, it sent its biggest team yet to Beijing.

There are in all, fifteen athletes who will participate in the Beijing Games. Twelve in athletics, two in swimming and one in shooting.

Bibi Alalawi, the Bahrain ambassador, said his people are most interested in athletics, and mainly focus on outdoor and indoor track and field.

Maryam Yusuf Jamal, 24, and Yusuf Saad Kamel won many championships at the LAAF World Athletics during 2005-2006. Rokia Al Ghassia is the Arab record holder in the 100m and 200. Ramzi Rashid and Ali Belal Mansoor also performed well at several LAAF World Championships.

Africa and Oceania

The most important thing in life is not to triumph, but to compete, Pierre de Coubertin said. For many African athletes, taking part in the Olympic Games is a unique opportunity.

South Africa

sending the largest squad since apartheid

By Zhang Dongya

With a 202-member delegation including 137 athletes, this year's South Africa team is the largest since the apartheid era. They will compete for medals in track-and-field, swimming and boxing.

"We have high hopes for track-and-field, swimming, canoeing, hockey, cycling and boxing," Moss Mashishi, president of South Africa Olympic Committee, said in an interview with Xinhua.

South Africa won six medals in Athens, with one gold in the men's 4X400m Freestyle Swimming Relay, a win that broke the world record.

This year, South Africa sent its strongest swimming squad in history: 25 male and female swimmers. The swimming team coach Dekelange said the team aims for three golds and four silvers.

Track-and-field is another sport that could bring medals to South Africa, with the champion of Women's High Jump Hestrie Cloete, who won the silver in Athens.

Medalists on the team include the Athens 800 meter silver medalist Mbulaeni Mulaudzi, LJ van Zyl who will be in the 400 meter hurdles event and swimmer Jean Basson will participate in the 200 meter freestyle.

South Africa is one of the continents strongest teams, and it captured the most gold medals in the All-Africa Games in 1995 and 1999.

Ethiopian

long distance runners eye continued glory

By Han Manman

Ethiopia's ambitious track runners are ready for another fierce charge in Beijing.

With 14 golds, five silvers and 12 bronze medals earned since its Olympic debut in 1956, Ethiopia has emerged as a superpower in track events.

Ethiopian Ambassador to China Haile-Kiros Gessesse said the country sent a 36-member squad this year. It will compete in the men's and women's marathon, the 10,000m, 5,000m, 3,000m steeplechase and 1,500m events.

"The athletes are practicing day and night to show their maximum talent. They want to see the Ethiopian flag flying high in the Olympic Games. We have full confidence they will win and get the gold medal in long distance and some other activities," Gessesse said.

Kenenisa Bekele is the reigning Olympic and world champion in the men's 10,000m, and quadruple-world champion Haile Gebreselassie swept two Olympic golds in 1996 and 2000. There is also Sileshi Sihine, the 10,000m silver medalist in Athens and recent double world champion.

Ethiopia's Tirunesh Dibaba holds the world record in the women's 5,000m. Being the reigning two-time world 10,000m champion, Dibaba will arrive in Beijing as the hot favorite for gold in the 5,000m, and 10,000m.

The ambassador said besides their traditional track squad, the country also seeks to make a breakthrough in other events, including boxing.



Kenenisa Bekele of Ethiopia has a shot at the gold men's 10,000m. CFP Photos

Angola

aiming for the quarter-finals in men's basketball

By Jin Zhu

This is the fifth time the Angolan basketball team has made it to the Olympics. Having won the last African Championships, the Angolan basketball team can be called one of the sturdiest in the world.

Gomez, its most seasoned player, said the Olympic competition would be fierce. Both the US and Spanish basketball teams are hopefuls for the gold, but Angola's goal is the quarter-finals.

Unlike other African nations, basketball is exceptionally popular in Angola. The Angolan people regard basketball as a cornerstone of their lives. Despite years of war and a pit of foreign loans, the Angolan government continues to give strong financial backing to the country's national basketball team.

Besides men's basketball, Angola will also participate in women's handball.



Leisel Jones, a leading swimmer for Women's 100m from Australia

Australia

expects more from water sports events

By Gan Tian

Geoff Raby, Australia's ambassador, appeared with the Chinese National Australian Football League (AFL) team in Xiaowuji Sports Center last Saturday to share his expectations of the country's athletes.

Australia is the third largest team in Beijing Olympics, and Raby expects the team to win 20 medals, three more than it won in Athens.

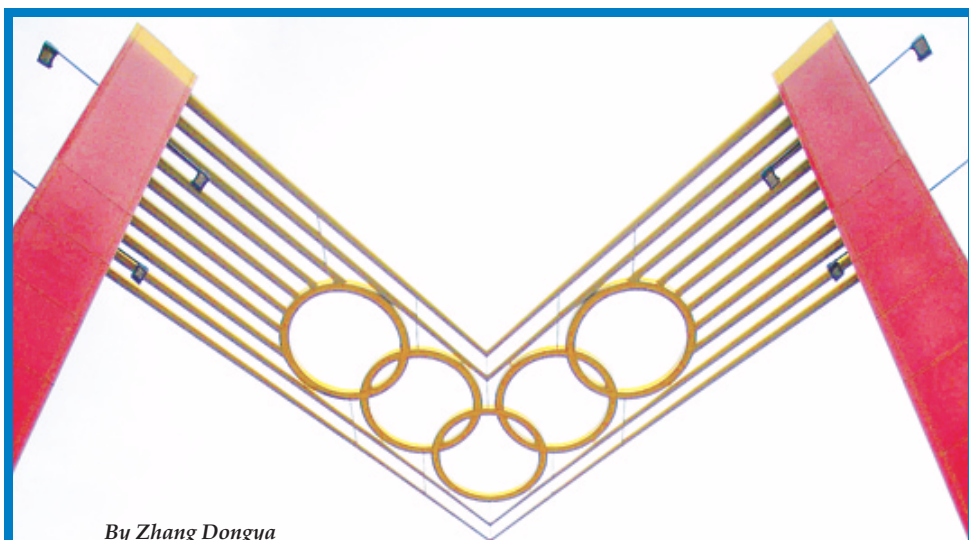
Grant Hackett, captain of the Australian swimming team, flew to Beijing from the training camp in Kuala Lumpur to waiting media Saturday. He said he will do his best to secure a third gold in the Olympic 1,500m. Alan Thompson, Australia's head coach, said he's chasing a place in history as the first man to win three consecutive 1,500m titles.

The Australian listed 10 athletes in whom Australia's hopes of Olympic glory are most pinned: Leisel Jones in the 100m and 200m breaststroke, Libby Trickett in the 100m freestyle, Jessicah Schipper in the women's 4X100m relay, Amber Halliday and Marguerite Housten in rowing, Drew Ginn and Duncan Free in men's rowing, Darren Bundock and Glenn Ashby, Grant Hackett, Michael Rogers and Cadel Evans, and the Kookaburras in men's hockey.

The country sent 433 athletes to this Olympics. It is the country's second largest away team, just behind the Athens 2004 total 482. The team aims to place in the top five in the medals tally.

About 300 to 400 journalists have come from Australia to cover the Games and Beijing city life.

100,000

free condoms
at Olympic Village

By Zhang Dongya

You may have heard the joke about the Olympic condoms that come in three colors: gold, silver and bronze. Whether it is a fact or fiction remains a topic of debate, but there are Olympic condoms, and they adopted this name as they are being provided during the Olympic Games.

The tradition of free condoms was initiated in 1992 by the International Olympic Committee in an effort to raise awareness of AIDS. In the 2008 Beijing Olympics, as many as 100,000 free condoms are supplied at the Olympic village. It can be looked upon as keeping with an old tradition, but also adopting new thinking on safety.

CFP Photo

Some 100,000 high-quality condoms were made available for distribution along with information on HIV prevention and anti-discrimination in English, French and Chinese in the clinic at the Olympic Village from last Friday.

It was part of the HIV Prevention Campaign launched jointly by the United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the Beijing Olympic Committee.

They will also distribute information about AIDS, condoms and anti-discrimination to participants in this year's Beijing Olympics.

In addition, all athletes have received a sheet and two AIDS video spots filmed by the Chinese basketball star Yao Ming and Michael Ballack, the German football player and UNAIDS Special Representative.

"Olympic athletes are helping break down barriers of stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV," Peter Piot, UNAIDS executive director, said at the launch of the campaign in

Beijing, "They are also well placed to carry the message across countries and cultures to inspire people to adopt behavior that protects them against HIV."

The campaign will also be held in the other two co-host cities of Qingdao and Hong Kong.

In addition, a series of Olympic-themed condom ads were released recently to coincide with the 2008 Beijing Games.

The advertisements show a set of pictures about athletes using condoms as apparatus in the Olympic events, such as basketball nets, archery targets, bicycle wheels and gymnastic rings.

The government has given much attention to the prevention of HIV/AIDS. In May, three-star and higher-level hotels in Beijing were ordered to stock condoms in every guest room, and according to the plan, free or paid condoms will also be available at karaoke and night clubs, spa resorts, and other entertainment places by the end of the year to help people combat AIDS.

Comment

I think it's a good plan. It offers convenience to Olympic athletes, members of the national delegations and the more than 100,000 volunteers supporting the Games at the Olympic Village.

It is a big issue to prevent AIDS in China. It can be a positive way to promote AIDS-prevention and raise the consciousness of people all over the country.

Since the Olympic Village will host as many as 16,000 athletes, coaches and officials all over the world, it is hard to say whether 100,000 condoms are sufficient. They should consider supplying more to avoid shortages.

- Daniel Zhang, editor of the Titan Sports Newspaper

It is an important and effective measure for a safe and healthy Olympics. Also as an international tradition, it should be done like

this. As far as I know, the number of AIDS cases transmitted through sexual activities has far surpassed that caused by other means, so it is very necessary to promote the use of condoms among the public, especially at this special time.

- Elva Li, Olympic Games reporter

I think it relates to an ongoing issue for sportsmen, whether it is good or bad to have sex before sports. Some doctors advise athletes to abstain before entering the ring or going onto the field, for it can drain the athletes' energy. But it also depends on the individual, because some, sex before a game actually relaxes them.

- skotmanforyou, u148.net

The Olympic condom ads are clever. I think every product is trying to benefit from the Olympics and why not? It's the best place for exposure, I guess.

- ebay motors, mobchina.blogspot.com

Links

In 1992, at the Barcelona Summer Olympics, organizers began to offer free condoms at the Olympic Village in an effort to raise awareness of AIDS.

In 1998, at the Nagano Winter Olympics, 40,000 condoms were distributed.

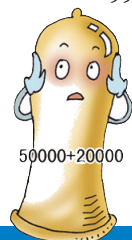
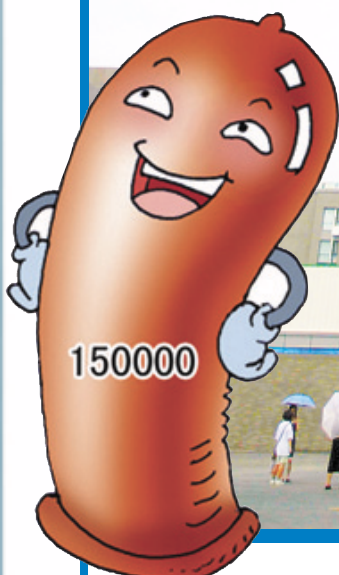
In 2000, at the Sydney Games, competing athletes were given 50,000 condoms at the Olympic Village, but another 20,000 had to be shipped in

when supplies began to run out.

In 2002, at the Salt Lake City Winter Olympics, health groups handed out 150,000 condoms at both official Olympic venues and non-Olympic sites such as nightclubs.

In 2003, the All-Africa Games offered 150,000 condoms for 6,000 athletes.

In 2004, at the Athens Olympics, 130,000 free condoms were made available to a total of 17,000 athletes and officials.



Olympic-themed karaoke song is a hit



Jackie Chan is one of the 100 musicians in the official edition of "Beijing Welcomes You."

CFP Photo

By He Jianwei

To mark the 100-day countdown to the 2008 Olympic Games, a beautiful ballad called "Beijing Welcomes You," composed and performed by 100 Chinese musicians was released April 17. Over the past three months, the music video of the song has received much attention on the Internet. Hundreds of netizens have re-interpreted the music video drawing millions of clicks.

People, old and young, home and abroad, have participated in performing and creating netizen videos. "Beijing Welcomes You"

to do what we could for our motherland to celebrate the upcoming Games," Li said.

On July 12, Li posted a notice on bbs.revefrance.com, which is the biggest BBS for Chinese students in France. On her post, she called on netizens who would like to sing and make a video for the Olympic Games to contact her as soon as possible.

She received 50 applications from which Li chose 40 to perform. "I asked them to make a vocal recording of just one or two sentences and mail it to me within three days," she said.

video," she said.

On July 31, the video was finished and released on the BBS. She provided the download address for the audio and video versions.

After uploading the video to YouTube, it became popular and spread to Chinese video sharing Web sites, such as Youku and Tudou.

Choral group finds audience in Paris

Li and her friends have an amateur choral group and practice and perform in their spare time.

When Li decided to sing a

Province this May, her chorus was invited to do a charity performance in Paris by the Chinese students' union in France.

"We lived in France, but cared about what was happening in China every moment. All 40 people who sang the song believe that the tune is both for the Olympic Games and for our country," she said.

Painstaking editing

From July 12, Li took 10 days to collect all the audio demos. It was a long, arduous task to edit the video for a July 31 debut,



has become the most popular of all the new Olympic theme songs.

Forty Chinese students in France sang the song and made their own video in Paris last Thursday. When it went to the Internet, the video spread quickly on to main video Web sites.

From BBS to video Web sites

Li Fan, a graduate student studying accounting and finance in Paris, started the project. "At the approach of the Olympic Games, my friends and I wanted

The applicants chose their favorite lyrics from "Beijing Welcomes You." Li then judged the entries.

"In fact, the principle is very simple. If the applicant does not sing in key, I will not ask him or her to take part in our project," she said.

The selection procedure was carried out exclusively over the Internet. With regard to creating the video, "If the applicant does not live in Paris, I will ask him or her to mail in their photos and these will be edited into the

song for the Olympic Games, she listened to all the Olympic-themed songs for the Games. Finally, she chose "Beijing Welcomes You."

"The song is in the form of a ballad, which makes it easy for people to remember and sing. And the lyrics are also simple, so it is an easy task for people to sing it together," she said.

Although the members in Li's chorus are not professional singers, the group is famous in Paris among Chinese students. When the big earthquake hit Sichuan

Li said.

She had to make sure that the audio matched with the image. "I had to take a lot of time with my editor to mix the audio and image together," she said.

The most difficult part was synchronizing up the voice and images. "It took five hours to produce a 90-second clip," she said.

"My audio editor didn't sleep for three nights," she said.

Li watched the all versions of the song and preferred the elderly version, sung by 30 people aged 50 to 80.

Links

Other versions

Students at Tsinghua University



Students at Tsinghua University decided to make a new video of "Beijing Welcomes You" to help create memories of the Olympics Games. Foreign students studying in Beijing also took part in the video. They shot the videos not only in beautiful, scenic spots, such as the Great Wall, the Forbidden City and the Temple of Heaven, but also on Tsinghua's campus.

Seniors in Shandong



Thirty music students from a Senior Citizen University in the city of Heze, Shandong Province, aged from 50 to 80, made their own version with a budget of 500 yuan. After it was uploaded on to the Internet in early July, the video received 100,000 clicks. Chinese netizens regarded it as the "lowest-budget" version of the "Beijing Welcomes You" song.

World of Warcraft



The creator of this video must have been a fan of World of Warcraft, a popular multiplayer online role-playing game. The creator created different roles in the game and lip-synching as different singers.

Cartoon version



This video is also a lip-synching version. The characters in the video are chosen from about 10 cartoons home and abroad, including *Kung Fu Panda*, *Saint Seiya* and *Popeye*. Most of the cartoons come from childhood memories, so the video gained a lot of clicks and compliments from netizens.



Youth camp, no barriers

By Venus Lee

The opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympic Youth Camp took place at Beijing 101 High School on Wednesday afternoon. As one of four major Olympic-themed projects, the Olympic Youth Camp started at the 1992 Stockholm Olympic Games has a splendid history.

"This is my first time to visit Beijing. I am so excited to participate in the Youth Camp. It is an amazing experience to get to know more friends my age from all over the world," Helga Corina Lemos, an 18-year-old girl from Timor-Leste, said. "I will fall in love with China after this interesting experience, and maybe I will ask my family to let me study in China, although it is tough work to study Chinese."

"There is no discrimination

here, no matter what color you are or whether you are physically disabled, you will feel at ease here. What I experienced was the rich atmosphere of harmony and sharing" Li Shun, a 21-year-old boy from the special education schools of Beijing Union University, said.

According to the enrolment statistics, a total of 205 countries and regions sent their representatives to participate in the Beijing Olympic Youth Camp, the highest in its history. There are more than 400 campers in the camp with the youngest camper, a 12-year-old boy, recommend by the Iraq Olympic Committee. The oldest happy camper is 28 years old and from North Korea.

"It is the first camp that has invited disabled youth to take



Several African girls capturing memories on film.

Photo by Venus Lee

part, so the counsellors give us special attention. They constructed barrier-free facilities

in order to facilitate our life here. Each room usually contains four people, but I just

share a room with one other girl," Li Rongmei, a 25-year-old girl from Shandong disabled school, said.

All activities held by the camp are all set up on three themes: experiencing the Olympics, communicating and learning together and getting familiar with China.

Besides the kung fu classes offered by the Chinese Wushu Association, the campers can also practice other Chinese traditional exercises like Tijianzi and Doukongzhu. During the two weeks of the Beijing Olympic Youth Camp, the activities within and without the camp number as high as 30, including appreciating the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games and visiting the Great Wall and the Forbidden City.

Japan House, present and future

By Yu Shanshan

Japan House, headquarters of the Japan Olympic Committee located in New Otani Changfugong Hotel, has been decorated in typical modern Japanese style – clean, functional, not overdone and without any trace of kimonos in sight.

The committee rented it during the 2008 Beijing Olympics as the official venue to hold press conferences, celebrate gold wins and interview officials. After registration, people can enter the house to watch the games played by Japanese teams. The venue will also be used to promote Tokyo's bid for the 2016 Olympics.

The house opened Wednesday afternoon and will remain open until August 24. Japan has opened Japan House at every Summer and Winter Olympics, since the 1998 Nagano Winter Olympic Games.

In the corridor, guests' eyes will be drawn to a wall of pictures and names of Japanese team athletes on one side. On the other side, a big card with good wishes written by some of the most famous athletes and some modest words saying things like, "Enjoy the Games." To its right is a blank board awaiting the names of future Olympic winners.

Several small exhibitions decorate the house, and at the end of the corridor, athletes' uniforms are showcased. On the TV screens in the main hall, when live games are not being televised, the committee presents artistic Japanese food and, of course robots. One of them perched on a small horizontal bar reminds visitors of Tomita Hiroyuki, the 28-year-old Japanese aerobatics star. On its left side is Issey Miyake's fabric. The interpreters beside each exhibit can speak English.

Japan House is open to the public, free of charge, daily from 10 am to 10 pm. One should make reservations with his or her passport. Call 5877 6501 for more information.

French cyclists support the Olympics

By Zheng Lu

It was very festive in front of the gate of the French Embassy Monday afternoon, as a welcome reception took place for the arrival of as many as 115 cyclists.

The cycling team, sent by the Federation France of Cycling Tourism (FFCT) and the Association Amitie Euro-Chinoise, was part of the French folk activities for the Olympics. Planned two years in advance of the Beijing Olympics, it aimed at celebrating the Games, advocating a green Olympics and concentrating on sport.

The cyclists left Paris on March 16 and reached Beijing Sunday. The whole journey lasted four and a half months and has set many world records during the ride. They traveled the Eurasian continent and road 12,600 kilometers through 12 countries including Germany, Hungary, Romania, the Ukraine and Russia.

Eighty percent of the team members are French while others are from Belgium, Britain, China, Canada and the US. The average age is 59 and most are retired or cycling fans. The cyclists also walked 100 kilometers every day despite the arduous voyage.

Bernadette Schneider and Christian Blandeau, a retired couple who attended the event,



The cyclists riding through China and heading for Beijing.

Photo provided by FFCT

said the most difficult thing during the trip was setting up camp after an exhausting day on the bikes. There was no water with which to clean up, and the couple said that was the most challenging aspect of the trip.

Nevertheless the local people and customs enter-

tained them and lightened their cycling adventure.

"The most exciting moment for me was when we reached a town in China where people were holding a cooking competition. I found myself standing next to the champion and she hugged me and invited me to try her dish," Schneider said.

Hervé Ladsous, the French ambassador, said the embassy participated in the activity from the beginning to support the team and offer help. He said that since the team has successfully completed its task, the members are now going to enjoy sightseeing the next two weeks.

Celebrities and collectors trade Olympic souvenirs

By Wang Yu

On August 1, *Beijing Youth Daily* staged "Exchange Happiness in Beijing" at Chaoyang Park.

The activity is designed to set up a platform where readers of the newspaper and collectors can trade Olympic souvenirs.

At the start-up ceremony,

Zhang Yanping, proprietor of *Beijing Youth Daily* and He Jiali, assistant of the district head of Chaoyang District, raised the curtain together and revealed a souvenir shop full of Olympic remembrances.

The famous collector Baiming traded a piece of his ancient China of Ming Dynasty on which there is a pattern of Jiuju, an

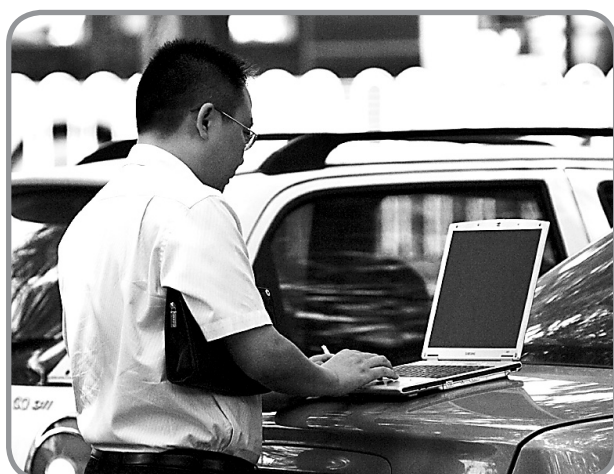
item of ancient Chinese sport which is considered as the origin of modern football soccer with Liu Chaoying. The latter collector brought a whole collection of stamps featuring the signature of Juan Antonio Samaranch, former chairman of the International Olympics Committee.

A medicine cabinet, which was carried by Liu Chang-

chun's doctor to Berlin 70 years ago grabbed the attention of the audience. Liu is the first Chinese Olympic athlete who took part in the 1936 summer Olympics.

Some foreigners including the press attaché from the Greek Embassy in China, Stelios Korkidis, also attended the ceremony.

Watch the Games anytime, anywhere



A man surfs online while waiting during rush hour.

CFP Photos

Wireless Internet access is available in the six shaded areas below.

By Annie Wei

Those without access to a TV to watch their favorite Olympic competitions can always catch them online.

If you have no access to a computer at work, you can get wireless Internet access in six areas.

Current areas with wireless Internet include most points along Second and Third Ring Road, the CBD, Financial Street, Zhongguancun, Wangjing and Yizhuang. Beijing has more wireless Internet access points than any other city in the country.

From now until the end of September, residents and tourists in listed areas can get wireless Internet for free on their laptops, PDAs or cell phones.

How to get connected

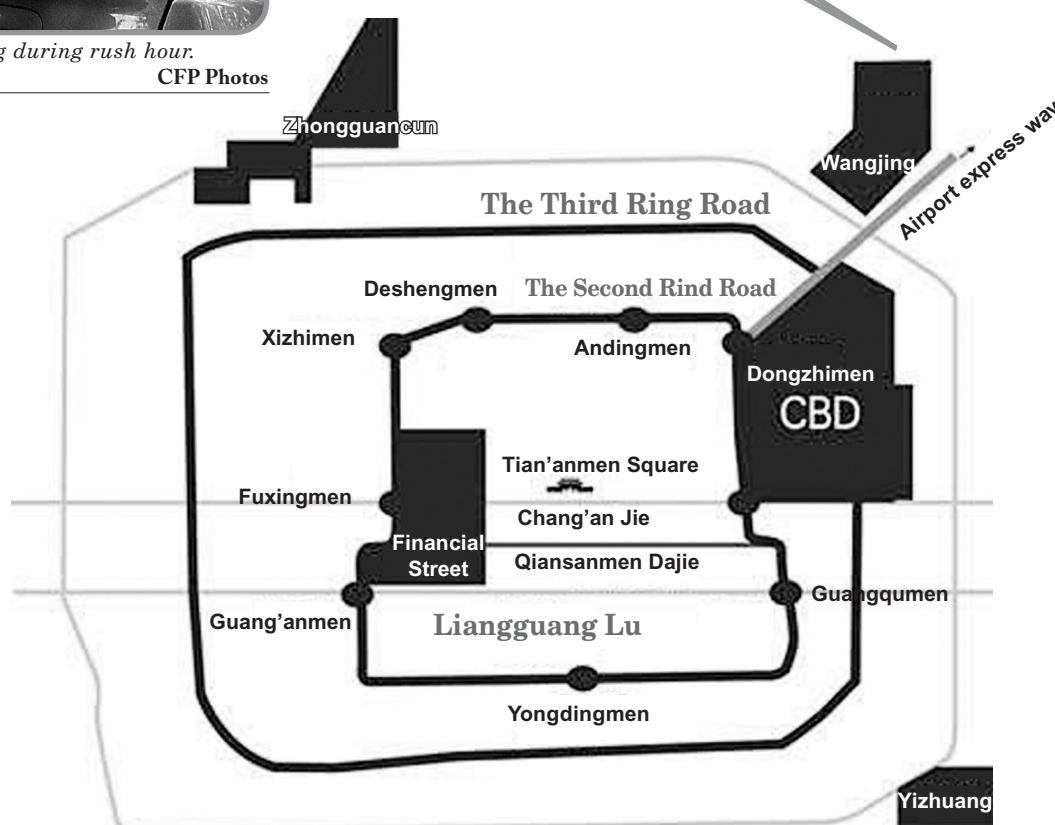
In any one of the six wireless covered zones, simply open your laptop and look for a network named "cctv-chinacomm wireless service." Click on it and then log on to bj.wiccity.cn.

Open the Web site and click on the English version.

On the left side of the page, click "register, self service." Then fill in the requested information.

Please note, this registration is free of charge, but you need to fill in your personal phone number from your service that is billable monthly; no prepaid plans.

For many tourists who only have a pre-paid number, this internet service is not available.



One can apply for a free trial card at the following locations.

1. First floor of Chinacomm Beijing branch, 1 Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang District

Tel: 6416 9966, Ms Chen
Open: 10 am - 4 pm, Monday to Friday

2. First floor of Building 20, Zone 12, Hepingli

Open: 10 am - 4 pm, Monday to Friday

3. West side of the first floor of Building 273, Fuwai Dajie

Open: 10 am - 4 pm, Monday to Friday

For further information, please call 4008162636

Test results

Although the Web site is not well established yet, a group of Wi-Fi enthusiasts tested the speed of the network.

The test showed that the Inter-

net seemed responsive when used to browse Web sites, but was not stable enough to stream video.

Speeds ranged from 150 to 200 kilobits (18 to 25 kilobytes) per second, according to the test done one month ago. However, Chinacomm's CEO said the wireless downloading speed will be no lower than 512 kilobits (64 kilobytes) per second during the Games.

Authorized Web sites broadcasting the Games

cctv5.com.cn
tv.cctv.com/live_t
CCTV's Web site will provide the opening and closing ceremonies for the Games and all events. But you need to download relate software first.
2008.pps.tv
2008.sohu.com/video
2008.uusee.com

Watch the Games on cellphone

1 One can subscribe for SMS or photos from Web sites like Sina, Sohu or Tencent. China Mobile also provide relate service.

However, the information per SMS is very limited and no English service yet.

2 Mobile holders can get online to watch the Games. However, holder need to download different softwares for different kinds of mobiles and the online bill is not cheap.

3 If one wants to watch the Games on his mobile with little downloading bill, he can buy a mobile with TV receiver. Over 10 different domestic mobile brands have come out with such products.

Squares with big screen TV

Places like Houhai, Sanlitun Bar Street, Chaoyang Park and Ritan Park are known for their big screen TVs.

Apart from that, Beijing has also built 26 Olympic culture squares. These squares have been open to the public free since June 23, with big screen TVs and many outdoor Olympic-themed exhibitions. They have also set up food suppliers, security and a medical service.

Below are some in the downtown:

Zone 8 of Ditan Park

Where: 2 Anwai Dajie,

Dongcheng District.

Tel: 6421 4657

Xidan Culture Plaza (Xidan Wenhua Guangchang)

Where: Wugongwei Hutong, Xicheng District

Yuting Shimin Wenhua Plaza

Where: 17 Binghe Lu, Yongdingmen, Chongwen District

Daguan Yuan Wenhua Plaza

Where: 12 Nancaiyuan Jie, Xuanwu District

Open: 9 am - 8 pm

West Gate of Chaoyang Park

Where: Chaoyanggongyuan

Xi Lu, Chaoyang District

Tel: 6595 3972

The Place

Where: 9 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang District

Wangjing Guangchang

Where: 33 Guangshun Bei Dajie, Wangjing District

Haidian Park

Where: southwest corner of the gate of Furongli Xiaoku, Haidian District

Tel: 6285 0559

Shijietan Plaza

Where: The China Millenium



The Place is expected to attract many viewers during the Games.

Momument, 9 Fuxing Lu, Haidian District

Lianhuachi Park

Where: 48 Lianhuachi, Fengtai District

Tel: 6397 2892

Beijing International Sculpture Park

Where: 2 Shijingshan Lu
Tel: 6865 0422

For many who will arrive over the next few months, the Olympics is not their only destination. They are curious to explore and to collect memorabilia. From this week through the end of September, *Beijing Today* will present a series of guides. The guides include current popular sites for food and shopping, and will lead visitors to sites of interest too new for the guidebooks. We hope you can feel the pulse of the city and dig deep into Beijing's daily life.

Exhibition

National treasures on display in



A jade suit

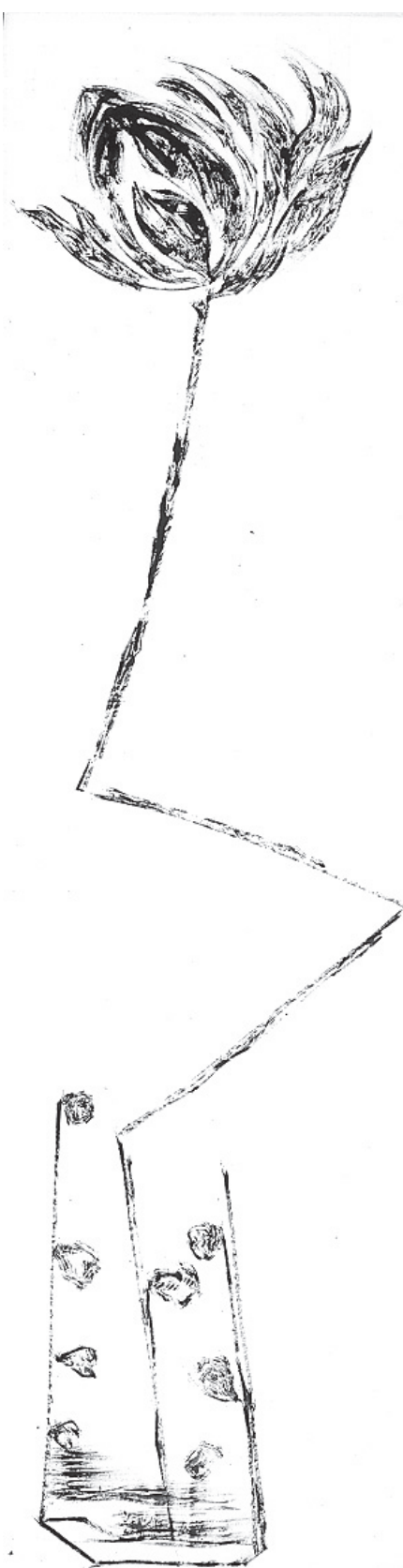


A piece from the exhibition – The Memory of China



A display from the exhibition – The Memory of China

Olympic truce exhibition promotes world peace



Expol-Sources Art Space

Personal War – Chen Ke Solo Exhibition

The works are a kind of cartoon-style painting that fills viewers with a sweet feeling. Fabric, thread, resin and embedded diamonds are included in the creations. The artist said she made art into a game, associating the creative process with doing handicrafts.

Where: Star Gallery, 2 Qiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: till September 15, daily except Mondays, 11 am – 6 pm

Admission: free

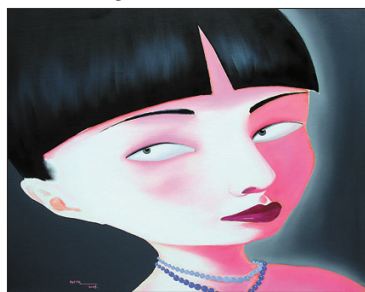
Tel: 8459 9631

Wordless in Tranquility – Hsu Yu-jen Solo Exhibition

Throughout his 30-year artistic career, Hsu Yu-jen has constantly searched for that perfect creation that geometrizes the composition of a picture such as the square, egg-shape, triangle, parallel lines, perpendicular and so on. He discovered a new trend of thought rising from the old traditions, a return to the thinking of nature and then starting with that and surmounting the whole composition in a water and ink painting. In his paintings, all the tiny points and lines are linked together and address the ecological problems of today. In this exhibition, bold and fine strokes in water ink painting are shown, leaving viewers with two



Star Gallery



Artist Village Gallery



Gallery TN

different emotions.

Where: Expol-Sources Art Space,

2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: till August 24, daily except Mondays, 10:30 am – 6:30 pm

Admission: free

Tel: 6431 4793

August • Beijing Time –

Contemporary Art Joint Exhibition

Where: New Millennium Gallery, 3818 Warehouse, No 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: till August 28, daily 10:30 am – 6:30 pm

Admission: free

Tel: 6432 4122, 13911166261

Arlos Quintana

Where: Arario Beijing, Brewery Art Complex, Beihuqu Lu, Andingmen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang

When: till September 14, daily except Mondays, 10 am – 6 pm

Admission: free

Tel: 5202 3800

Yan Yu Solo Exhibition

Where: Artist Village Gallery, 1 North of Renzhuang, Songzhuang, Tongzhou

When: till August 31, daily 8 am – midnight

Admission: 20 yuan

Tel: 6959 8343

Flaming Youth Blossoms Everywhere – Liu Chunhai Solo Exhibition

Where: Bada Gallery, 3818 Warehouse, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: till August 19, daily except Mondays, 1-6:30 pm

Admission: free

Tel: 6433 5120

Reawakening – Chinese New Millennium

Where: China Visual Zone D, 1 Art Area,

Cuigezhuang, Chaoyang

When: till August 9

Mondays, 9 am – 6 pm

Admission: free

Tel: 6432 6755

Landscape – Xue Song Solo Exhibition

Where: Courtyard Caochangdi, Chaoyang

When: till September

except Mondays, 11 am

Admission: free

Tel: 6526 8882

Douglas Gordon

Where: DoART Gallery, Changdi, Changyang

When: till September

except Mondays, 10 am

Admission: free

Tel: 8457 4550, 84

Feng Zhengquan and Joint Exhibition

Where: Gallery TN, iao Lu, Chaoyang

When: till August 2

– 6 pm

Admission: free

Tel: 8459 9550

Panda Box

Where: Star Gallery, iao Lu, Chaoyang

When: till September

except Mondays, 11 am

Admission: free

Tel: 8459 9631

n Beijing



By Li Jing

For the first time, 169 national treasures from 55 museums in 26 provinces and municipalities have been gathered under one roof for an unprecedented "one-stop" historical feast. The exhibition *The Memory of China: Treasures From Its 5,000-year Civilization*, sends a greeting from the ancient country to the modern Olympics.

The exhibit spotlights the Terracotta Warriors and horses of the Qin Dynasty, the money tree of the Eastern Han Dynasty, a sun god sculpture, the oldest item dating back 7,000 years and an imperial enamel incense burner from the Qing Dynasty, the most modern item on display. Every precious relic tells a tale and recalls vivid memories. Collectively, they present a grand picture of 5,000 years of

Chinese civilization.

As the eighth wonder of the world, the Terracotta Warriors attract most of the visitors' attention. Standing at the center of the hall, the group of military staff includes a general, an officer, a warrior, a squatting archer and a war horse.

After the short trip to Qin Dynasty, a jade suit is ready to whisk you back to the Western Han. The suit, made up of over 4,000 flakes of jade and threaded with gold wire, is the earliest and the most delicate one of five jade suits in China.

The exhibition took two years to assemble. Only two kinds of relics could be included in the show: those which are so important as to be illustrated in students' school history books, and those newly-unearthed and never seen by the public.

Along with this exhibition, four other elaborately- and carefully-prepared exhibitions are open at Capital Museum. These include *Refined Beijing Cultural Relics*, *The Civilization of the Yangtze River Region*, *Folk Sports From Around the Forbidden City* and *The Spirit of Competition in Ancient Greece*.

The Memory of China: Treasures From Its 5,000-Year Civilization

Where: Capital Museum, 16 Fuxingmen Wai Dajie, Xicheng
When: till October 7, daily except Mondays, 9 am – 5 pm
Admission: 30 yuan
Tel: 6339 3339

Refined Beijing Cultural Relics

Where: Capital Museum
When: till October, daily except Mondays, 9 am – 5 pm
Admission: free

Tel: 6339 3339 (reservations are essential)

The Civilization of the Yangtze River Region

Where: Capital Museum
When: till October 14, daily except Mondays, 9 am – 5 pm
Admission: free

Tel: 6339 3339 (reservations are essential)

Folk Sports from around the Forbidden City

Where: Capital Museum
When: till October 12, daily except Mondays, 9 am – 5 pm
Admission: free
Tel: 6339 3339 (reservations are essential)

The Spirit of Competition in Ancient Greece

Where: Capital Museum
When: till October 14, daily except Mondays, 9 am – 5 pm
Admission: free
Tel: 6339 3339 (reservations are essential)

Stage

Concert

Music Queen of Asia Sumi Jo Solo Concert

Who: Sumi Jo
Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People
When: August 11, 7:30 pm
Admission: 180-1,280 yuan
Tel: 6655 0000

Three Star Tenors Concert

Who: Marcello Giordani, Salvatore Licitra and Ramon Vargas
Where: Great Hall of the People, on the west side of Tiananmen Square, Xicheng
When: August 13, 7:30 pm
Admission: 180-1,200 yuan
Tel: 5165 6039

Latin expression – classical guitar concert

Who: Wang Zhen, Li Huizhe, Lai Kangkang, Zhang Kai and Beijing Philharmonic Guitar Chamber Music Group
Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng
When: August 16, 7:30 pm
Admission: 10-100 yuan
Tel: 6559 8306

Sound of the Music – Chorus Concert of World Famous Songs

Who: Beijing Festival Chorus
Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng
When: August 18, 7:30 pm
Admission: 10-100 yuan
Tel: 6559 8306

Swan – Classic concert by Cellist Zhu Yibing

Who: Zhu Yibing
Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng
When: August 20, 7:30 pm
Admission: 10-100 yuan
Tel: 6559 8306

Blue in Midnight – Red Hand Jazz Group Quintet Concert

Who: Red Hand Jazz Group
Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng
When: August 22, 7:30 pm
Admission: 10-100 yuan
Tel: 6559 8306

Renee Fleming and Jonas Kaufmann Classical Concert

Who: Renee Fleming and Jonas Kaufmann
Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People
When: August 16, 7:30 pm
Admission: 180-1,280 yuan
Tel: 6655 0000

Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra

Who: Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra
Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People
When: August 18-19, 7:30 pm
Admission: 120-800 yuan
Tel: 6655 0000

A night for piano in China

Who: ten world top pianists
Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People
When: August 19, 7 pm
Admission: 600-2,800 yuan
Tel: 6655 0000

Cyprien Katsaris Piano Solo Concert

Who: Cyprien Katsaris
Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People
When: August 21, 7:30 pm
Admission: 60-480 yuan
Tel: 6655 0000

Dance

Red Detachment of Women

Who: China National Ballet
Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People
When: August 23, 7:30 pm
Admission: 80-500 yuan
Tel: 6655 0000

My Dream V

Who: China Disabled People's Performing Art Troupe
Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People
When: August 10-12, 7:30 pm
Admission: 80-980 yuan
Tel: 6655 0000

La Sylphide and the third act of Napoli

Who: Royal Danish Ballet
Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People

When: August 9-10, 7:30 pm
Admission: 180-1,080 yuan
Tel: 6655 0000

Trailing the Sun

Who: Beijing LDTX Dance Company
Where: Beijing Oriental Pioneer Theater, 8-2 Santiao, Dongdan, Dongcheng
When: August 11-15, 7:30 pm
Admission: 60-150 yuan
Tel: 5166 4511

Sky Dance

Who: Kook Soo-Ho Didim Dance Company
Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng
When: August 15, 7:30 pm
Admission: 100-880 yuan
Tel: 6559 8306

Flamenco Sabores

Who: Sara Baras
Where: Great Hall of the People, on the west side of Tiananmen Square, Xicheng
When: August 20, 7:30 pm
Admission: 80-680 yuan
Tel: 5165 6039

Opera

French Modern Musical Marco Polo – the Imaginary Voyage

Who: created by Pierre Cardin
Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People
When: August 16, 7:30 pm
Admission: 60-800 yuan
Tel: 6655 0000

Action Musical Terracotta Warriors

Who: Sight, Sound and Action
Where: Beijing Exhibition Theater, 135 Xizhimen Wai Dajie, Xicheng
When: August 19-23, 7:30 pm
Admission: 150-850 yuan
Tel: 6835 4455

Large Scale Creative Vaudeville - Colorful Life

Who: China National Opera and Dance Drama Company
Where: Tian Qiao Theater, 30 Beiwei Lu, Xuanwu
When: August 16-18, 7:30 pm
Admission: 80-680 yuan
Tel: 5166 4511

Continued on page 14 ...

13

City pulse

Editors: Yu Shanshan Li Jing Designer: Yang Gen

BEIJING TODAY

By Han Manman

From *Ancient Olympia to Beijing*, the painting exhibition at the International Olympic Truce Centre (IOTC), features Greek and Chinese artists discussing truce, fair play, war and peace with works by 29 Greek and nine Chinese artists. The show has exhibits at the Hellenic House in Beijing.

In ancient Greece, all the city states would maintain a truce during the period of the Olympic Games, Angelos Syrigos, director of IOTC said. This was a sacred principle for them. Hundreds of years later, the International Olympic Committee has declared that one of the essential principles of the Olympic spirit is "to revive the ancient idea of the Olympic Truce," with the goal of promoting a more peaceful global society.

Based on this principle, the exhibition presents artwork with subjects inspired by peace, truce and sport. Its aim is for China to follow the same course taken by ancient Greece, the cradle of the Olympic Games and 2004's host. Syrigos said two great ancient civilizations engage in dialogue about sport, truce and peace through the works of their contemporary painters and show how universal values are perceived.

Although they cannot force the people of the world to keep peace during the Olympics, they are seeing some promising signs, such as Iraq sending its team to participate in the Beijing Olympics, he said.

The 29 Greek artists were selected by Chrysanthos Christou, art historian and a member of the Athens Academy. Many of the Greek works were created specifically for this exhibition. The Chinese artists were selected by Xin Dong Cheng, a curator.

Where: The Hellenic House, 109, Nanheyuan Dajie, Dongcheng District

When: till Sept. 30, Wed-Sun 9 am – 6 pm



... continued from page 13

14

City pulse

Nightlife



Torch@1949 features fun without tickets during the Olympics

By Gan Tian

An exciting new dining and entertainment complex, and a recent addition to the Sanlitun restaurant and bar scene, will be an Olympic-themed entertainment venue for the duration of the Beijing Games, August 8 to 24.

Tucked away behind Pacific Century Place, Torch@1949 is the perfect blend of indoor and outdoor East-meets-West restaurants, cafes and champagne bars, and is situated in an exceptionally leafy garden shaded by tall trees and surrounded by a wall that ensures privacy without seclusion.

Major highlights of the program of events will be the opening and closing ceremony parties. The festivities will offer an exclusive alternative for those without tickets to enjoy refined cuisine, fine wines,

live music, big-screen viewing of the ceremonies and a convivial Olympic atmosphere that will even make those sitting in the Bird's Nest envious.

Residents, businesses and visitors to Beijing during the month of August, will be looking for places where they can cut loose during the day and night, have some fun, enjoy the Olympic entertainment and wine and dine with people from all over the world. Torch@1949 gives them all this to the rhythm of cool summer sounds from one of Europe's top DJs.

Torch@1949

Where: Courtyard 4, Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang District

When: August 8-24

Tel:

Bookings can also be made via email at 1949@sportsworld.co.uk.

YENo80808

Where: Star Live, 79 Hepin Xi Lu, Dongcheng
When: August 8, 9 pm
Admission: 100-250 yuan

Tel: 6425 5677

Youth Party of China

Where: Star Live, 79 Hepin Xi Lu, Dongcheng
When: August 13, 8 pm
Admission: 60-100 yuan
Tel: 6425 5677

African Nights

Where: Yugong Yishan, West Courtyard former site of Duan Qirui Government, 2-3 Zhangzizhong



Lu, Dongcheng
When: August 8, 9 pm
Admission: 50 yuan
Tel: 6404 2711

Folk Activities

Hands-on: Chinese Cloth Tiger Pillows

In China, the tiger is a symbol of power and goodness especially associated with children. And so, handmade tiger pillows are a popular gift for parents to express love, hope and positive wishes for their children.

Where: Chinese Culture Club (CCC), Kent Center, 29 Anjialou, Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: August 9, 2-5 pm

Cost: 200 yuan

Tel: 6432 9341, 6432 1041 (registration is important)

Ink & Wash Painting Class

Chinese painting is one of the oldest continuous artistic traditions in the world. Ink and wash painting is an East Asian type of brush painting. It is also known as wash painting.

Where: Chinese Culture Club (CCC), Kent Center, 29 Anjialou, Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: August 11, 7:30-9:30 pm

Cost: 120 yuan

Tel: 6432 9341, 6432 1041 (registration is important)

Calligraphy

The calligraphy course is set up for non-mandarin-speaking students and con-



Chinese Cloth Tiger Pillows

ducted in English, covering everything from meaning and evolution of the characters and culture to history and music of the period.

Where: Chinese Culture Club (CCC), Kent Center, 29 Anjialou, Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: August 12, 10-11:30 am

Cost: 120 yuan

Tel: 6432 9341, 6432 1041 (registration is important)

Outdoors

Immortal Valley Loop

The trip follows a well-maintained scenic trail to an 800-meter peak, from which you can get a good view of surrounding hills and valleys. There is a lot to see along the way - spring water pools, waterfalls, big trees, wild flowers and some sections of the Great Wall.

Where: Meet on the ground floor of Starbucks (Jiangtai Lu, Lido Holiday Inn)

When: August 10, 8 am - 5:30 pm

Cost: 350 yuan

Tel: 13910025516 (reservations are essential)

Huitengxile Inner Mongolia Grassland

Huitengxile is less spoiled and attracts tourists. Mushroom-like yurts (tents), bright skies, fresh air, rolling grass and flocks and herds moving like white clouds

across the remote grassland will give you a quiet and relaxing feeling you will never forget.

When: Fly to Hohhot on August 9 and fly back on August 10

Cost: 2,850 yuan

Tel: 6432 9341, 6432 1041 (reservations are essential)

Royal Canal Boat Tour to the Summer Palace

This boat and walking tour provides an opportunity to see a bit of everything of the capital, both historical sites and daily life of Beijingers. Cruise along the imperial canal in a traditional-style motorized canopy boat past Beijing Zoo, Beijing Aquarium, and the Purple Bamboo Garden.

Where: meet in the square of the Beijing Exhibition Center, 135 Xizhimen Wai Dajie, Xicheng

When: August 13, 9 am - 3:30 pm



Lugu Lake

Cost: 250-400 yuan

Tel: 6432 9341, 6432 1041 (reservations are essential)

From Baoshan Stone Town to Lugu Lake in Yunnan

The stone town, located 110 kilometers north of Lijiang in Yunnan Province, was built in the late 13th century, with three-sided steep cliffs with one side facing the Jinsha River. There are 100 families living there. Their household items like take and bet, are all carved out of big stones. Leaving the town, the trip heads towards Lugu Lake, where a tranquil transformation awaits visitors.

When: Fly to Lijiang on August 10 and fly back on August 17

Cost: 11,980 yuan

Tel: 8621 6278 (reservations are essential)

Movie

Nace Un Campeón

Where: Beijing Institute Cervantes, A 1 Gongti Nan Lu, Chaoyang

When: August 9-10, 7 pm

Admission: free

Tel: 5879 9666

Los Suenos y Realidades del Equipo tricolor

Where: Beijing Institute Cervantes, A 1 Gongti Nan Lu, Chaoyang

When: August 15, 7 pm

Admission: free

Tel: 5879 9666

Le Vélo de Ghislain Lambert

Where: French Culture Center, 1/F, Guangcai International Mansion, 18 Gongti Xi Lu, Chaoyang

When: August 8, 9 and 11, 7:30 pm

Admission: 10-20 yuan

Tel: 6553 2627

The Life of Emila Zola

Where: Minty Bar, 26 Mao'er Hutong, Dongcheng
When: August 11 and 14, 9 pm

Admission: free

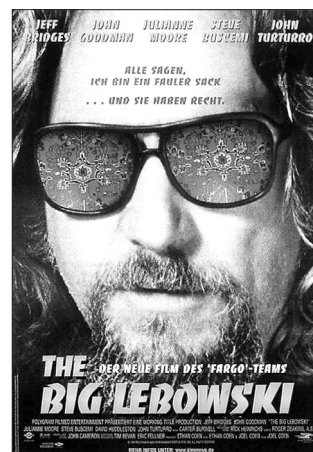
Tel: 13810222787

The Big Lebowski

Where: Club Obiwan, 4 Xihai Xiyuan, Xicheng
When: August 13, 9 pm
Admission: free
Tel: 6617 3231

Bertrand Piccard

Where: Beijing Channel Zero Media, 7G Building 4



Meilin Garden, 33 Zizhuyuan Lu, Haidian

When: August 14, 7 pm

Admission: free

Tel: 8855 0622

Book

Basically Beethoven: a musical night

Musicians from far and wide gather at Beijing's most eclectic open night. Featuring every musical style from a sitar symphony to a virtuoso

violinist, players of all creeds and special talents are welcome at the musical extravaganza hosted by the inimitable pianist, vocalist and maker of merriment, Paul Eldon.

Where: The Bookworm,

Building 4, Nan Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang

When: August 14, 7:30 pm

Admission: free

Tel: 6586 9507

(Li Jing)

Get a gem of a deal at the jewelry markets

Emeralds bring good luck

By Venus Lee

Eastern Gold Jade in Dongdan is owned by Beijing Dongfang Jinyu, the biggest provider of raw and processed jade materials, and the only publicly listed jade company in the Chinese mainland, and is also the franchised proprietor of the official mascot for the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games.

The most featured products are emerald decorations. Rings, earrings, bracelets, bangles, necklaces, pendants, plaques, baldric, statues of Buddha and Bodhisattvas and other refined artworks are elaborately made of emerald. All raw materials are mined from Tengchong, Yunnan Province, and Burma, which is renowned for the production of emeralds.

Gu Feng, the manager, said the structure, color and transparency are the three main criteria in appraising raw emerald. Valuable emeralds must be fresh and appealing in color, subtle in structure and have high transparency.

Gu said the processing technique is a very important step on the way to a finished product. The shapes of adornments sold here are ingenious, and the precise and exquisite workmanship has gained the company a great reputation and popularity. He said the company has many experts

in the fields of emerald identification and carving. The senior technicians account for 30 percent of the total employees.

All their products are appraised by experts from state-run examining institutions, such as national and municipal jewelry examining centers. Usually each piece of jade comes with a certification document to testify to its quality, Gu said. When customers buy jade here, they can ask the China Meteorology Accreditation (CMA) and the China Accredited Laboratory (CAL) for certifications to ensure the quality of their purchase. It is very important to choose a quality-guaranteed place to buy jewelry.

Emerald is regarded as the king of jewelry and it is endowed with several positive meanings in China such as good luck, happiness, longevity as well as good fortune. Nowadays, emerald is not only worn as a popular adornment, but also is a representative of the Chinese culture. Gu said that during the Beijing Olympics, they have produced Fuwa souvenirs to commemorate the Games and it would be a meaningful gesture to give them to your friends as gifts or collect them for yourself.

Eastern Gold Jade

Where: 1, Dongdan North street, Dongcheng District.

Open: 9 am - 8 pm
Tel: 5123 9877

Topaz at GemsTV, a stone for Sagittarius, 1035 yuan

By Gan Tian

China's jewelry industry has become the third largest consumer hot spot preceded only by the real estate and automobile industries. A piece of Swarovski crystal jewelry, selling for 90 Euros in Paris, goes for 1,800 yuan in China, but a piece of crystal jewelry of the same quality at the Beijing Pearl Market can be half the price of the famous brand.

GemsTV brings on the bling

By Annie Wei

One can easily get cheaper copies of anything in China from designer clothes and bags to fake iPhones, Cartier-like products and Tiffany jewelry.

However, buyers are suspicious of the quality. When a seller offers a "Cartier" one-carat diamond at one tenth the price of the original, buyers tend to be wary.

Less-expensive jewelry pieces, like different colors of topaz with different meaning, are popular among young Chinese women.

For example, girls who are expecting a romantic relationship like to wear a pink crystal bracelet. In *fengshui*, pink means lucky in love. For good fortune, a yellow crystal is a good choice as yellow signifies gold.

Affordable gems and jewelry with reliable quality can be purchased from a new online dealer in Beijing: gemsTV.com.cn.

GemsTV is an integrated manufacturer and television home shopping retailer of colored gemstone jewelry. Its products include handcrafted designs, which are sold directly to customers through a television home shopping network and the Internet.

The company has four fully-integrated jewelry production facilities in Chanthaburi, Thailand.

Every piece of jewelry GemsTV manufacture is handcrafted by artisans and jewelry specialists. The company claims to purchase gemstones that originate from over 45 different countries. Thailand is a world leader in gemstones.

Although GemsTV's television channel is not available in China yet, its Web site, gemsTV.com.cn is open to all customers.

Every piece of jewelry that the company makes comes with a Certificate of Promise packed with useful information like where the gems were mined, their minimum total gem weight, their cut and number, the type of precious metal used and their approximate weight in grams.

In November 2006, GemsTV extended its TV shopping programs to the US where it broadcasts 24 hours a day to approximately 34 million subscribers. In Japan, GemsTV started broadcasting its Japanese TV shopping channel to approximately 3.5 million viewers in November 2007.

GemsTV

Where: gemsTV.com.cn
Tel: 8738 1919



The front entrance of Eastern Gold Jade



Photo by Venus Lee

Other places to buy

Dajia Yongli Jewelry Market

Where: A22, Dongshishitiao, Dongcheng District
Open: 9 am - 7 pm

Wuhuan Jewelry Market

Where: B61, Xijiekou Nan Dajie, Xicheng District
Open: 9 am - 7 pm
Tel: 6616 6944

Beijing International Pearl Trading Center

Where: 2 Huixin Dong Jie, Chaoyang District
Open: 9 am - 7 pm

Yilong Pearl

Where: F1, Golden Source Mall, 1 Yuanda Lu, Haidian District
Open: 9 am - 7 pm

(By Gan Tian)

Continued on page 16 ...

Hongqiao Market, the pearl market

By Gan Tian

Hongqiao Market, close to the Temple of Heaven is best known for its pearls.

There are plenty of pearl shops but, remember its freshwater pearls which are of a lower quality than saltwater pearls. As soon as you arrive, all you have to think about is pearls. The staff is very skilled and do things very quickly. They can remake a pearl necklace or bracelet in any design you like. Just tell them what you want. Generally speaking, the quality is not bad and the prices are excellent.

Angelochka, a foreign netizen shared her experience at the Pearl Market. "I bought earrings and was given a bracelet as a gift. Sure I would buy more if I hadn't bought pearls in Shanghai a year ago. Different prices range from US \$5 down to US \$1, and if you buy a lot, you usually receive a bonus gift," she said.

Josef Shepherd, a frequent buyer from Santa Monica, California, also offered some tips. "They do not grade their pearls on any scale that we use here, but solely on the price they paid," he said. "Negotiation is absolute in Beijing. I would suggest remaining firm on 30 percent of the originally quoted price – whether it be pearls or anything else at the Hongqiao Market."

A strand of pearls in the 8-9 millimeters range, in the quality you are looking for, round, high luster and no flaws, can be had for about US \$200. But here are a few important points to keep in mind:

- The pearls should appear to be round – not potato shaped, no rings.
- The surface should be clean – no bumps or crevices in the nacre.
- The luster should be sharp – a good reflection should be visible in the pearl.

Although the ground floor and the basement fish stalls are a seething mass of people all day every day,



Pearl necklace vendor at the Pearl Market

CFP Photo

the crowds dwindle the higher up you go. There are some classy shops on the upper floors.

Note that several buildings nearby are now part of an "extended" Hongqiao Market, and you may get better bargains there. There is a shop around the corner

from the market that has vast amounts of toys, electronic games, sporting goods and stationery.

The Pearl Market

Where: 46 Tiantan Dong Lu, opposite the east gate of the Temple of Heaven, Chongwen District
Open: 8:30 am – 7 pm

Red hot Crocs offers limited editions



Inspired by elements of Chinese culture and to mark the Olympic Games, Crocs introduced the "China Limited Edition Range" in Beijing the end of last month. The range includes limited editions of the red and yellow China Beach, China-Crocs-O-Dial, the "Love China" wristband and the new sporty Jibbitz lines.

China Beach (Limited Edition)

Adding to the array of colors available, the China Beach Limited Edition features the classic Crocs clog in fiery red with a bright yellow strap. The shoes, complete with Crocs' signature features including lightweight comfort, breathable and waterproof elements, is the perfect footwear this summer as you cheer for your home team at the Games. Only 88,888 pairs were produced exclusively for the China market, a surefire collector's item for the Crocs fashionista.

China Crocs(tm)-O-Dial (Limited Edition)

Taking a page out of the Crocs Beach design catalogue, the popular Crocs-O-Dial mobile case embraces the Crocs Beach design elements. Going with the red and yellow Chinese theme, the functional mobile case can be further customized with Jibbitz charms.

Crocs "Love China" wristband

If you want to be spotted from afar at the Olympic Games, the Crocs' "Love China" wristband is the answer. Red hearts dovetailing the two yellow straps will become your best cheering gear as you raise your hands and join millions of others supporting the Chinese teams.

Crocs Beijing

Where: B1, South Tower, 9 Guanghua Lu, The Place, Chaoyang District
Open: 10 am – 10 pm

(By Gan Tian)



www.crumpler.cn

CRUMPLER SAYS NI HAO!!!

Best-selling Australian bags have finally hit town, offering a colorful range of laptop, camera, and leisure bags which are cool, unique and full of personality to suit your style. Get ready for the new school term with Crumpler! Check us out at our two brand new stores with many more stores to follow.



Buy a Crumpler bag before August 14th 2008 and stand a chance to win one Olympic football ticket on the 16th of August 2008!

✿ Crumpler Lido Area, 36 Jiang Tai Road, Chaoyang District (Tel: 6438 3713)

✿ Crumpler Europlaza Shop L118-99 Yu Xiang Rd., Shunyi (Tel: 8046 6348)

It's snack time!

By Gan Tian

Beijing has 250 kinds of traditional snacks, many of which start from glutinous rice, soy bean or other fried materials.

This week, *Beijing Today* has hunted down some of the best stops in Beijing for snack lovers. Don't be afraid to pack on a few extra pounds - you can always run them off following the Olympic marathon!

How many can you name?

By Gan Tian

The strong, local flavor of Beijing's treats attracts many visitors. Some of these snacks have a history of 600 years. When foods withstand the test of time, they evolve into classics, with time and story behind each.

Local treats fall into three different categories: Han, Hui and imperial snacks, which are generally prepared by steaming, deep frying, frying in shallow oil, and instant boiling. Some people regard the snacks of Beijing as "living fossils." Small stands or even whole restaurants to sell classic treats can be found

all over the city, such as Longfusi and Huguosi snack counters, Quick boiled Tripe Man, Chatang Li and Huntun Hou.

Typical treats include Douzhi'er, mung bean milk, Jiaoquan, crispy-fried dough rings, Aiwowo, a steamed, cone-shaped cake made of glutinous rice or millet, Chatang, paste or custard made of millet or sorghum, Ludagun, a pastry made of steamed, glutinous millet flour or soy bean flour, sweet baked cakes, pea flour cakes, walnut cakes, small corn buns, eight-treasure rice and fried cakes made of glutinous rice flour.



Huguosi's doorface

Snack Hodgepodge in Huguosi

By Venus Lee

Huguosi Snacks serves the traditional menu of old Beijing treats. It sells Aiwowo, Donkey Rolls, Traditional Beijing Bean Jelly, Jiaoquan, Zasui, soup of sheep intestines, Douzhi, fruit rice cake, Fried Butter.

The store has about 100 varieties of treats. Though few customers are familiar with all those traditional snacks, it just makes every visit a new experience. The store has long been a favorite of both foreigners and locals, and has opened branches in Xin Nan Dajie, Yuetan Bei Jie and Xisi Nan Dajie.

Huguosi created the Snack Hodgepodge, Xiaochiyan in Chinese, which gathers classical Beijing and Muslim treats. The store always has long lines, but the prices are reasonable.

Huguosi can be traced back to Yuan Dynasty, when the Hugu Temple was built. Snack vendors gathered there every year to sell snacks at the temple fair. During the 1930s, the temple fair was booming. By 1956, the government brought together several of the best-known snack makers from the fair to form Huguosi Snack Store.

Huguosi Snacks

Where: 93 Huguosi Street, Xicheng District

Open: 5:30 am - 10 pm
Tel: 6618 1705



Snacks at Huguosi

Photos by Venus Lee



Hundun Hou's Wontons

Hundun Hou popular with locals

By Han Manman

Wontons, called *Hundun* in Chinese, are a kind of dumpling filled with spicy minced pork and usually served in soup. Wontons have been popular for over a thousand years, especially in winter.

Hundun Hou, a time-honored brand, originated from Houting Jie, at the old Dong'an Market of Wangfujing in 1959. It has since become the most famous wonton chain in Beijing, with several establishments operating under its moniker.

One of the eateries is in Longfusi, the snake street and one of the two main markets of old Beijing.

According to the staff, Hundun Hou has been popular since the 1960s. At that time, the oldest Hundun Hou in Wangfujing was very near the People's Art Theatre, so, many a famous actor and actress went there for a bowl of wontons and two roast cakes after performing.

Though Hundun is small and cheap, it is often

the site of big events. Late Chinese premier Zhou Enlai invited the chef of Hundun Hou several times to cook Hundun for visiting foreign officials.

The chain mainly serves wontons and sesame buns. Their brand of wonton is characterized by a thin wrap, fine stuffing and tasty soup.

The eatery is decorated in a traditional style with wooden furniture. The counter is in the back, and tables and chairs are cleaned after each client leaves.

A bowl usually contains 10 wontons which swim in a delicious chicken soup or bone soup stewed six hours. Condiments include dried purple seaweed, coriander, spiced cabbage and dried baby shrimp. The menu also features noodle soup and steamed, stuffed buns.

Hundun Hou

Where: 84 Longfusi Xiaochi Jie, Dongcheng District

Open: 10 am - 10 pm

Tel: 6406 0632

Cost: 15 yuan

... continued from page 17

18 Tianfuhao's creative way to braise pork

By Han Manman

Yesterday, most Beijing families sat down to a pork dinner. August 7 this year was Liqiu, or the beginning of Autumn. It has long been a Beijing tradition for people to eat meat, especially fatty meat, on the first day of Autumn to bulk up for the coming winter.

Tianfuhao is the first stop in adding winter weight. Its braised pork with soy sauce has earned it a position as a time-honored brand with a history spanning 300 years. The dish uses the meat from the top of the pig's leg, a cut that is oily but not greasy, lean but not bony and

savory and mellow with tender skin.

The secret is in the ingredients and the broth, Fang Feiyue, manager of Tianfuhao Food, said. The broth is added after the pork has been braised for one hour, and then the fire is lowered. Although the dish is called sauced pork hock, no sauce is used.

When the hock is removed from the broiler, the skin is left onto prevent it from falling apart. The skin is dark violet and glistening with oil.

In 1738, a man named Liu Deshan opened Tianfuhao, a cooked meat shop, with his son. They took turns cooking through the night. One night, while his



Braised pork leg at Tianfuhao

son was on duty, he passed out. When he woke up, he found that the pork was over done and the stock had become a thick sauce. He removed the meat and sold it when it got cold.

An officer happened to buy the pork and found it very delicious. The following day he came back again looking for the same dish. The father and son then reworked their shop to sell only that kind of meat, and the rest is history.

There are 400 outlets and sales networks covering Beijing and its suburban areas, the largest of which is in Xizhimen. **Tianfuhao**

Where: 213 Xizhimen Nei Dajie, Xicheng District

Open: 10 am - 10 pm

Tel: 6225 2361

Average cost: 20 yuan

He who has never eaten Jiumen Snacks is not a true man

By Milo Lee

The best way to know a city is through its food: the quickest is through its snacks.

Beijing is host to many famous dishes, but none can say more about this city than its traditional food. Its treats are delicate yet simple, mixed with various flavors but somehow still clinging to a local taste. Many shops in Beijing sell traditional treats, but only Jiumen Snacks has them all.

Decorated in traditional Chinese style and located in a courtyard, Jiumen Snacks is not the usual restaurant. Twelve snack shops, including Yueshengzhai, Baodu Feng and Nailao Wei, line both sides of the indoor hutong, inviting guests to sample.

Niangao, Xianbing, Doufunao and Wandouhuang, all freshly made, are laid out on the counter. Try a Jiaoquan, a kind of crispy, deep-fried cruller, with a bowl of Douzhi or Doufunao and some pickles, a plate of Baodu, beef omasum slices boiled in hot water and a plate of Ludagun for desert.

When you walk into Jiumen, you will be given a wooden tray. You can pick out your favorite freshly-made snacks and then find a seat to enjoy. People go to Jiumen for the traditional atmosphere of snack food makers hawking their treats with traditional sales pitches.

Jiumen means nine city gates. In the past, Beijing had nine city gate towers, and its 12 time-honored snack restaurants were scattered about the city. As time went on, many such small restaurants went the way of the dinosaur. To preserve the traditional snack culture, the Old-Beijing Traditional Snacks Maintenance & Development Association gathered the 12 remaining makers in 2006 to found Jiumen Snacks.

Jiumen Snacks
Where: 1 Xiaoyou Hutong, Xicheng District (near Houhai Park)
Open: 10 am - 10 pm
Tel: 6402 6868, 6402 5858



Snacks at Jiumen Xiaochi

Photo by Milo Lee

A hearty, old Beijing breakfast



A bowl of Chaogan

By Zhang Dongya

One has to mention Chaogan, a kind of stewed liver, whenever talking about Beijing snacks.

Chaogan has a long history which can be traced back to Song Dynasty. Since Chaogan in Huixianju Restaurant, in the Tongzhi region of Qing Dynasty, was famous, many believe it originated in Huixianju in Qing Dynasty. Chaogan in Huixianju used unblended starch, an uncommon use today.

Although it called stewed liver, it is primarily pork sausage, only one third pork liver. Outsiders tend to view Chao-

gan as a dish, but in Beijing it is more like a breakfast.

Traditionally, Chaogan is eaten without chopsticks. The bowl is held to the lips and the contents are pulled to the mouth using fingers. It is also traditionally eaten with *baozi*.

Since Tianxingju Restaurant, one of the best Chaogan makers, is still relocating, the best place to eat Chaogan right now is Yaoji.

The restaurant, situated on Gulou Street, is a convenient spot to grab a bite after a day of touring hutong. Try to avoid the rush hours, as Yaoji tends to be crowded.

Despite having recently expanded, there is still a long wait to get a seat.

Some say they are not used to the flavor, but it is best to try it for yourself. Chaogan represents the taste and flavor of old Beijing, and makes for a really cheap treat.

Yaoji Chaogan

Where: 72 Zhonglouwan Hutong, Gulou Dong Dajie, Dongcheng District
Open: 9 am - 11 pm

Other places to eat

Nine Traditional Snack Restaurant

Where: 1 Xiaoyou Hutong, north side of Houhai, Xicheng District.

Open: 10:30 am - 1:30 pm, 5-9 pm

Tel: 6402 5858

Nanlaishun

Where: 12 Nan Caiyuan Jie, south to the west gate of Grand View Garden, Xuanwu District

Open: 10:30 am - 1:30 pm, 5-9 pm

Tel: 6353 4720

Di'anmen Traditional Snacks Restaurant

Where: 180 Di'anmen Wai Dajie, Xicheng District

Open: 6 am - 8 pm

Tel: 6404 2946

Huoguosi Traditional Snacks Restaurant

Where: 93 Huguosi, Xicheng District

Open: 6 am - 8 pm

Tel: 6618 1705

(By Gan Tian)

The hutong, Beijing's soul

19

Travel Beijing

By Jackie Zhang

As the capital of China, any discussion of Beijing almost immediately conjures up images of hutong architecture. Since ancient times, the hutongs have been witness to the city's transformation. The hutongs are the soul of the city, and where many new stories begin.

Getting there:

Qianmen is easy to get to by taking subway Line 2 and getting off at Qianmen Station. Dashilan'er is an area next to Qianmen Dajie, and Liulichang is behind Hepingmen, which is also a station on subway Line 2.

Route 1

The rebuilt Qianmen, ancient business and cultural areas

Qianmen is the common name for Zhengyangmen. But for Beijingers, the name extends to the Dashilan shopping area as well. In common usage, Qianmen refers to Zhengyangmen, the Dashilan'er shopping street and the jewelry market in front of the gate.

Zhengyangmen

The gate of Zhengyangmen was built in 1439. It looks like a 12-meter-high fortress built with brick. The gate was for royal families. There used to be an urn-city between the main building and the tower.

The main building burned to the ground in both 1780 and 1849, and was again ruined in 1900 by the Eight Power Allied Forces. It was rebuilt by 1906 and renovated in 1916. It has remained the main symbol of old Beijing since its initial construction.

Qianmen Dajie is one of the most famous business streets in Beijing. Zhengyangmen is at its north end and the street dumps onto Tiantan Nan Dajie in the south. In ancient times, it was the route used by the Emperor when he went to Tiantan.

Qianmen Dajie

The business street began construction in Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). By

early Qing (1616-1911), it was host to many workshops, tea houses and opera theaters. Markets that sold fish, meat, fruits, clothes, pigs, corn, jewelry and snacks dotted the street and extended into nearby hutong. Many of today's time-honored brands began with Qianmen Roast Duck, including Quanjude, Yong'antang Medicine, Zhengyanglou Restaurant, Ruifuxiang Clothes Shop and Tongrentang Medicine.

After 1901, two railway stations were established at the east and west side of Zhengyangmen, and Qianmen Dajie became the capital's traffic hub.

The street closed for renovation in 2006, and many of the time-honored brands were forced to move elsewhere. When the street reopened to the public this year, Quanjude, Duyichu Shaomai, Zhangyiyuan Tea House, China Bookstore and Dabej Photo Studio returned.

The Dangdang cars, a trolley which disappeared 42 years ago, run once again.

The Dangdang cars got their name from the ring of their bell. The bell hung on the bus and would ring when activated by the driver's foot pedal. The cars will not run during the Marathon competitions in the Olympic and Paralympic games.



Liulichang, the famous cultural street

Dashilan'er shopping street

Dashilan'er is the oldest and most famous street and shopping area in Beijing. The street starts from Qianmen in the east and ends at Meishi in the west.

The street dates back to Ming Dynasty. Due to the curfew policy, and to stop thieves, wooden fences were built on many streets in Beijing. The Dashilan'er street was called Langfang Sitiao before the fences were erected.

From 1420 on, Dashilan'er developed into a business street. At present, there are 30 stores from 11 industries on it, including time-honored brands like Neiliansheng Shoes, Rongbaozhai, Tongrentang Medicine and Zhangyiyuan Tea House. Many restaurants serving snacks from other regions and provinces opened there as well.

Liulichang

Liulichang Dajie originated in Qing Dynasty, and is famous as a cultural street.

In Qing Dynasty, almost all the scholars who came to Beijing for the imperial exams gathered there. Many stores on the streets sell books, brushes, ink sticks, paper and ink stones. Many stores also deal in calligraphy, paintings and curios. Most foreigners see the street as part of an organized Beijing tour.

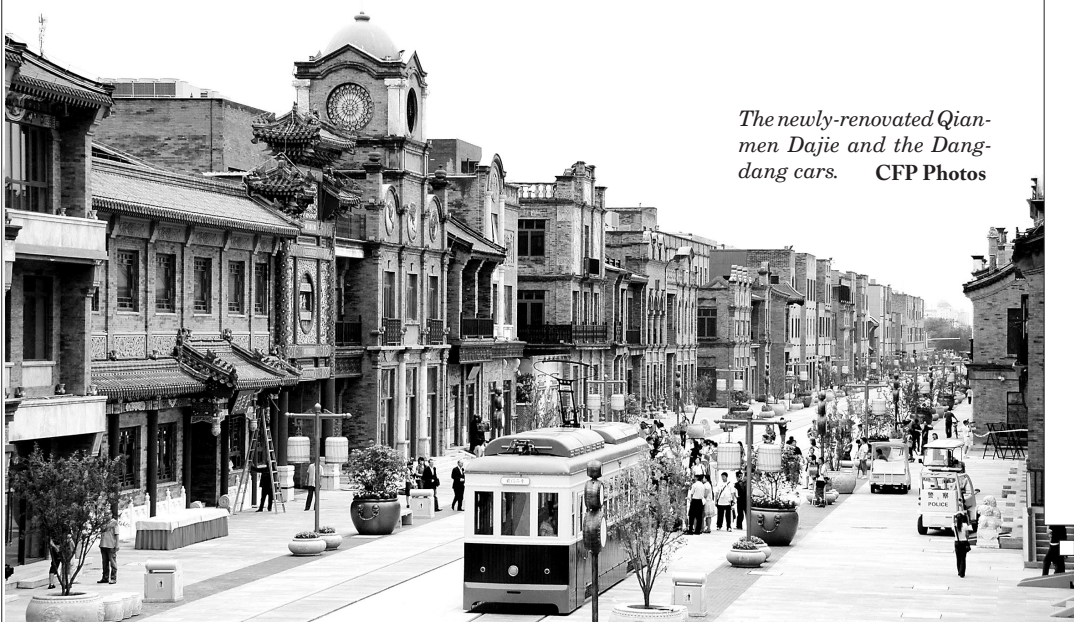
The street is outside Hepingmen in Xuanwu District. In Liao Dynasty (907-1125), this area was a suburb named Haiwangcun. In Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368), an official kiln was built there to fire colored glaze. In Ming Dynasty, the kiln was enlarged as a factory, and then relocated to Mentougou District. However, the factory name stuck and the area has been called Liulichang ever since.

Book markets which used to be in Qianmen, Dengshikou areas moved to Liulichang at that time. Book sellers from all over the country came to open stores, and Liulichang became the biggest book market in Beijing.

In early Qing Dynasty, a normal school was established on the site of the former factory and a park was built at the south end.

Liulichang has many famous old stores like Huaiyinshanfang, a craftwork shop, Yidege, an ink shop, and Guyizhai, a seal maker. The biggest old book store, China Bookstore, is also in Liulichang. The Commercial Press, Zhonghua Book Company and World Books are the three big presses in Liulichang. In late Qing Dynasty, famous calligraphers and artists including Zhang Daqian, Wu Changshuo and Qibaishi often went to the Rongbaozhai in Liulichang. It sells original pieces from famous artists and copies made by the staff. The Rongbaozhai-made copy of the painting Qingming Shang He has been exhibited in many countries and been praised for its precision.

The newly-renovated Qianmen Dajie and the Dangdang cars. CFP Photos



Continued on page 20 ...

... continued from page 19

Route
2

Famous hutong dwellers

By Milo Li

The hutong represent an important culture element. Everyday life is reflected in every inch of their brick walls. But the former residences of famous persons are also hidden in those gray alleys.

Beijing Today has a hutong tour route to see the former residences famous historical figures like Soong Ching-ling, Guo Moruo, Prince Gong and Mei Lanfang.

Mei Lanfang's
former residence

Mei Lanfang was a renowned Peking Opera star. He began to study Peking Opera when he was eight years old, and first performed at the age of 11 to become an opera legend. This typical courtyard home is where he spent the last decade of his life.

Upon entering the residence, there is a white marble statue of Mei Lanfang. A huge persimmon tree grows in the middle of the yard, blocking out much of the sunlight. In the eastern, western and northern parts of the courtyard, there are three painted corridors. Exhibitions about Mei's life and his art can be seen in his living room, illustrated with pictures and things he used. All furniture in the bedroom and study is placed as it was when Mei was alive.

In September 1984, the residence was listed as a heritage site and turned into a museum. Many relics and texts were donated by Mei Lanfang's family in 1962.

Where: 9 Huguosi Dajie, Xicheng District

Open: 9 am – 4 pm

Admission: 10 yuan (5 yuan for the elderly, children and the handicapped)



Soong Ching-ling's former residence

Located near the Houhai's north shore, this lovely garden is elegantly laid out with rock gardens and ponds dotted with pines, cypresses and flowers. Winding corridors links the traditional halls and pavilions in the garden. The tasteful layout gives the garden an atmosphere of elegant antiquity.

The Soong residence, also known as the West Garden, used to be the mansion of Prince Chun, the father of the last Emperor Aisin-Gioro Puyi. After the establishment of the People's Republic of China, the government attempted to find a place for Madame Soong to live, but she refused all its offers. In 1962, Premier Zhou Enlai ordered to repair and alter Prince Chun's Mansion into a two-story building for her. She moved in, in April 1963, and lived at the mansion for 18 years until her death.

Where: 46 Houhai Beiyuan, Xicheng District

Open: 9 am – 5 pm

Admission: 20 yuan

Guo Moruo's former residence

Guo was an accomplished author, poet, playwright, historian, archaeologist and social activist. His residence is situated at the west bank of Qianhai, originally a private garden belonging to He Shen, a corrupt official during the reign of Emperor Qianlong. The site later served as the stables of Prince Yixin during the reigns of emperors Xianfeng and Tongzhi.

Guo Moruo moved there in November 1963, and enjoyed his last 15 years in the mansion.

The existing residence is a large courtyard. The five rooms in the north were used as Guo's reception room, work room and study. There are three side rooms in the east and the west with winding corridors all around. The rooms in the back were where his wife, Yu Liqun, painted and did calligraphy. Many cultural relics, like Guo's handwriting, manuscripts and books, are preserved at the site.

Where: 18 Xijie, Qianhai, Xicheng District

Open: 9 am – 4:30 pm

Admission: 20 yuan (adults), 10 yuan (the elderly and children)



CFP Photos

Prince Gong's
Mansion

Prince Gong's Mansion, built in 1777, is located near Shichahai Lake and served as a private residence of He Shen. In 1851, the mansion was bestowed upon Prince Gong, hence the name. It is the most well-preserved mansion in Beijing.

On August 20, the entire mansion will open to the public for the first time. Though only the backyard garden is currently open, it is still very impressive. The garden in Prince Gong's Mansion is named Cuijin, meaning concentrated cream of the most beautiful flowers. It is surrounded by man-made hills on four sides. The main peak, constructed from Taihu rocks, is in the north. Behind



the hill are masterpieces of garden architecture, a theater and a tea house.

One has to see this mansion to begin to understand the lavish lifestyle of China's royalty.

Where: 17 Xijie, Qianhai, Xicheng District

Open: 9 am – 4 pm

Admission: 20 yuan (60 yuan for guided tour and special performances)

Continued on page 21 ...

... continued from page 20



In Spring, children always fly kites in the hutong.



Nanluoguxiang is a famous hutong where young people meet up.



Children spend their childhood beneath a tree.



Beijingers ramble in the old streets, their dogs in tow.

Mango illustrated specially for Beijing Today

Route 3

Route 3: Shichahai, a classic collection of hutong

By Venus Lee

There are more than a thousand hutongs surrounding the Forbidden City. Most were built in Yuan, Ming and Qing Dynasties. The Shichahai Hutong is regarded as the pearl of them all.

Shichahai is a famous historic and cultural sight-seeing spot near the Bell Tower and Drum Tower. It includes three lakes: Qianhai, Houhai and Xihai. There are 15 hutongs spread across Shichahai: Dajinsi, Xiaojinsi, Qianjin, Houxiaojin, Liuhai, Dashibei, Xiaoshibei, Yindingqiao, Tongtiechang, Qianhai Dongyan, Qianhai Nanyan, Qianhai Beiyuan, Houhai Nanyan, Nanguanfang and Beiguanfang Hutong.

Even hundreds of years after their construction, the area's hutong remain the best preserved.

The hutong in Shichahai offer a combined view of old, concrete buildings, the peaceful lake, green trees and old, quiet courtyards. The corridors are long and winding and drown out the noise of the vehicles on Beijing's busy roads. It is a tranquil center in the noisy city.

Along the lakeside are several peddlars who sell traditional handicrafts shaped as various animals. The animals, while made of sugar, are not edible: decoration only.

Pedicab makes your travel easier

Many visitors like to take a turn about the lakes in a pedicab. The cabbies are an interesting sight themselves, and are famous for their guide

service and historical knowledge of the lake sites. If you want to enter a certain scenic spot, they will wait at the gate.

Yandaixiejie, a business street shaped as a Chinese tobacco pipe

Yindingqiao, first built 700 years ago, is the famous bridge across the connecting channel between Qianhai and Houhai. Looking east from the bridge, one can see an old business street Yandaixiejie, which starts at Dianmen Wai Dajie and ends at the Xiaoshibei Hutong. There is a tobacco pipe store named as Changshengtai on the street. The outline of the whole Yandaixiejie alleyway is shaped like a Chinese pipe. All the products sold by the shopkeepers are related to old Beijing: articles like embroidered shoes and clothes, as well as costumes.

Splendid night life in Houhai

After viewing the day sights in Shichahai, stay for the night life. When night falls, the bars light up. Their lights reflect off the water in a very artistic atmosphere. There are many special bars scattered around Shichahai. Even if you pass them by, you can still take in their unique decoration. There are nearly 200 bars – traditional or modern, eastern or western – along the lake front. Every night, the arrival of thousands of visitors from around the world breathes new life into Shichahai.

Getting there:

To reach Shichahai, start from the Drum Tower. It will take about five minutes of walking to reach the lakes. You can arrive at Gulou by taxi or buses 5, 60, 107 and 124, or by subway Line 2. Buses 13, 107, 111 and 118 offer direct access to Shichahai.



CFP Photos



ClarkMorgan Corporate Training

www.clarkmorgan.com admin@clarkmorgan.com 800 820 5501

Beijing Chengdu Dalian Guangzhou Hefei Nanjing Qingdao Shanghai Shenzhen Suzhou Wuhan



Preston Teeter is the National RDS Manager of ClarkMorgan

The Art of Persuasion (Part 1)

“ If the idea has a clear benefit from accepting or a clear consequence from refusing, the task of persuading becomes 10 times easier. If a manager can show his or her employees the benefits of following a new company regulation, those employees will be much more willing to follow. ”

By Preston Teeter

Jessica and Bob are two managers who work at a major multinational firm in China. The company was going through a major restructuring and every employee's job was in jeopardy. Jessica and Bob were faced with the unenviable task of trying to persuade their top employees to stay with the company with no guarantee of a future job. After meeting several times with their respective departments, over 80 percent of Jessica's staff chose to stay, while fewer than 40 percent of Bob's staff wanted to stay. How was Jessica able to persuade her staff so much more effectively?

We are constantly faced with difficult situations in which we must persuade others to buy into our ideas. Perhaps we are trying to persuade a new customer to buy an expensive product or service, or we must persuade our staff to follow a new company regulation. Whatever the situation is, there is a proven set of skills that can help us to persuade more effectively.

Possibly the biggest difference between Jessica's and Bob's approaches to handling the situation was their relationship with their staff. Jessica, over two years, had established incredible rapport with her staff. She knew their favorite foods, how they spent their weekends, their family member's names and their future goals. During her meetings, she knew how each

staff member would react to the situation, enabling her to tailor her message to overcome the fears and anxieties of everyone.

Bob, conversely, had no rapport with his staff. Aside from their latest sales figures, he did not know anything about them. During Bob's meetings, everyone felt very tense and was quick to disagree with him. Several members of Bob's staff admitted that they took the restructuring as an opportunity to find a new manager.

When persuading, rapport goes a long way. Rapport is one of the key components when building trust. Jessica's staff trusted her and believed her when she said, "If you work hard another two months, you'll have a better chance to retain your job." The executives at this multinational company were astounded when they found that Jessica's department's productivity actually increased after news of the restructuring.

When Bob was trying to persuade his top employees to stay, he made the mistake of spending most of the time explaining how important their decisions were to him. What he failed to realize was that his top employees could not see any benefit to them personally if they stayed with the company.

Jessica was acutely aware of what was important to her top employees. She knew that compensation was a factor and carefully explained the severance package that was available if they stayed. However, Jes-

sica had to think beyond explaining the personal benefits to her staff. She knew that most had been together a long time and were concerned about one another's situation. If a few of her top employees were to leave, the remaining employees would be left with even bigger problems and would most likely be working overtime for the remainder of the restructuring. Jessica explained this consequence to her staff and then watched as they came to an agreement to support one another through this difficult situation.

The first thing one should do when persuading is think from the perspective of the recipient. If the idea has a clear benefit from accepting or a clear consequence from refusing, the task of persuading becomes 10 times easier. If a manager can show his or her employees the benefits of following a new company regulation, those employees will be much more willing to follow.

Building trust and showing benefits and consequences are two fundamental persuasion skills. However, these skills are certainly insufficient to persuade others who doubt your benefits or another point of view. Next week, we will take a look at some more advanced persuasion skills in part two of "The Art of Persuasion."

(Employee's names were changed and company name withheld for confidentiality)

Where you can get Beijing Today



Imported Ribeye Steak and Wine

A limited-time special offer awaits you at the Grill Restaurant, with a ribeye steak grilled to your taste from the open flame kitchen. It also offers a variety of vegetable and potato sides as well as a glass of wine.

Where: The Grill, Radisson SAS Hotel Beijing, 6A Bei Sanhuan Dong Lu, Chaoyang
When: 6 pm - 10 pm, daily
Cost: 198 yuan (per person)
Tel: 5922 3388 ext. 3440



Gourmet in a Basket

The chef here creates a tasty Prawn Basket and scallop puff in an innovative way to make the process of eating a memorable experience at the Olympics.

Where: Sampan Restaurant, Gloria Plaza Hotel Beijing, 2 Jianguomen Nan Dajie, Chaoyang
When: till August 31, 11 am - 3 pm, 5:30-10 pm
Tel: 6515 8855 ext. 2155



Royal Seafood Buffet Dinner



A wide variety of seafood and Southeast Asian cuisine is found here.

Where: Royal Cafe, 2/F Kun Tai Royal Hotel, B12 Chaoyangmen Wai Street, Chaoyang

Cost: 168 yuan (subject to a 15-percent service charge)
Tel: 5828 5215



The Great Wall Beer Garden

As summer comes into full bloom, the Great Wall Sheraton Hotel Beijing turns its biggest hotel garden into "The Great Wall Beer Garden." It features locally-priced Yanjing Beer, a barbecued gourmet selection of meat, vegetable and seafood skewers, chicken wings, chili-buttered corn, mini

focaccia burgers, Cajun-coated potato wedges complimented with your choice of salad, and a 5-meter screen showing the hottest sports events.

Where: the Great Wall Sheraton Hotel Beijing, 10 Dong Sanhuan Bei Lu, Chaoyang
When: 5 pm - midnight
Tel: 6590 5566 ext. 2116



A knock-out brunch offer

A well-prepared food accompanied by live jazz band music, magicians and a specially-prepared kids corner.

Where: Hilton Beijing, 1 Dongfang Lu, Dong Sanhuan Bei Lu, Chaoyang
Tel: 5865 5020



Mooncake Sale

To celebrate the traditional Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival, Wangfujing Grand Hotel has prepared two sets of moon cake gift boxes with different flavors, combining nutrition and fashion.

Where: Wangfujing Grand Hotel, 57 Wangfujing Dajie, Dongcheng
Cost: 158-258 yuan
Tel: 6522 1188 ext. 6037



Absolute Swiss indulgence

The chef in this restaurant presents a fresh, natural and pure Swiss contemporary cuisine with a Mediterranean zest.

Where: Café Swiss, Swissotel Beijing, 2 Chaoyangmen Bei Dajie, Dongcheng
When: till August 27, 6:30-10 pm
Cost: 298 yuan (three-course set menu)
Tel: 6553 2288 ext. 2127

(By Li Jing)

Beijing's party capital

By Jackie Zhang/Gan Tian

Sanlitun is known by locals as both a famous bar street and an embassy area. Its first bar was opened by two youths in 1995. Now, restaurants, cafes, galleries and places for leisure and entertainment have made it a well-rounded, fun hang-out.

Sanlitun gets its name from Dongzhimen Gate. A *tun* is a "locality," and *sanli* means "three li," 1.5 kilometers in modern measurements, from the gate.

In the late 1950s, the government wanted to move the diplomatic district outside the inner city, and Sanlitun was selected as the spot for foreign legations and embassies.

The area remains one of the most prosperous in the city, and continues to draw many foreign visitors. Locals also like it because they can find restaurants and bars to suit any evening out.



Lan Kwai Fong gives you a Hong Kong bar experience.

Photo by Rain Tian

A taste of Hong Kong Lan Kwai Fong

By Gan Tian

Ask any Hong Konger about Lan Kwai Fong, the island's most popular area for a night of bars, pubs, clubs and restaurants. This Sanlitun-styled Lan Kwai Fong Bar appropriates the name to draw in well-to-do locals, expats and tourists.

Though it looks smaller than other bars, the interior makes it seem larger: its walls and doors make the space seem like a warm-lit labyrinth where patrons can enjoy Italian cuisine, like Spaghetti Bolognese Noodle or Tuna Fish Salad.

Sirloin Steak is a house recommendation. Of the steaks typically considered to be premium steaks, sirloin is the cheapest. If your mouth waters at the thought of roast food, try its Grilled Beef. Beef is on all the best plates at Lan Kwai Fong.

The bar has two bands which perform from 7-9 pm. All the guests complain that the lead singer is too hot and distracts them from their meals, and the keyboard player has all the ladies wishing he would play them like his piano.

Unlike the real Lan Kwai Fong in Hong Kong, prices remain reasonable. It would not end your world — or your bank account — to take your girlfriend for a night out here. The bar's quality and high-class reputation are obvious at any night of the week.

Lan Kwai Fong Bar

Where: 66, Sanlitun Bei Jie
Open: 10:30 am – 3 am next day
Tel: 6417 2589
Cost: 70-100 yuan per person



An interior view of Lan Kwai Fong.

Photo by Rain Tian

Love your hands, love your feet

By Jackie Zhang

It might seem like a pub, walking into Lovely Nails in Sanlitun's Tongli Building. Underneath its high-ceiling hall, golden roof, blue and grey floor is the place for women to care for and beautify their nails.

Four workbenches in the store are for manicures, and another 10 for both manicures and pedicures. Half of the store's 20 employees have won prizes in national nail-beautification competitions. Every master has a different style, and a unique way to make their customers' nails stand out.

The store is near the embassy

area, and foreigners are the most frequent customers. The store provides English instruction for convenience.

A basic manicure takes 35 minutes. The experts clean the nails, trim excess cuticle and massage in a nutrient-rich cream to keep the hands soft and white. A manicure and pedicure together will cost around 400 yuan.

Lovely Nails

Where: Room 102, first floor of Tongli Building, 43, Bei Sanlitun Nan

Open: 9 am- 10 pm, Monday and Tuesday, 10:30 am – 10:30 pm, Wednesday to Sunday

Tel: 6417 5812



Lovely Nails stores are designed with huge pictures and bright colors.

Sanlitun's pink Thai paradise

By Jackie Zhang

The Pink Loft, a three-story building done mainly in pink, is the place to go for Thai food in Sanlitun.

It serves all the typical Thai dishes one can dream up: Tom Yam Koong soup, green papaya salad, various curries and special drinks made from secret recipes.

"Thai food is famous for its spicy and sour flavor. We can cook dishes at different levels of spice depending on individual taste. We also serve ordinary dishes and food which is not spicy," A Tarntip Noranual, the manager, said.

Sugar Cane is made from fresh cane juice. It is served all year

round, even in winter, when cane is not available in the Chinese market. "The cane is imported from Thailand. Sugar Cane is a popular drink in the Pink Loft," Noranual said.

The Loft's three-story building is dominated by pink. Immediately after entering the restaurant, there is a pink pendant lamp reflecting off a pool of water. The interior draws as many customers as the food.

The restaurant is decorated like a typical "loft" — very high ceilings, exposed pipes and ducts, floor to ceiling windows, exposed interior brick, stained cement floors and modern furnishings. Blue is used mainly for decora-



Dinning environment in Pink Loft. Photo provided by Pink Loft

tion. "The pink is for girls and the blue is for boys," Noranual said.

Pink Loft

Where: 6, Sanlitun Nan Lu

Open: 11 – 1 am daily

Tel: 6506 8811

Cost: 80 yuan per person

Other hot spots

The Rickshaw Fine Dinner & Bar

The Rickshaw's unpretentious atmosphere has made it a hit with the younger crowd who just wants to enjoy a pint of beer, a game and a burrito. Its large TV screens show all the big games. While it may not be as big as the other sports bars mentioned, the Rickshaw makes up for its overcrowding with heart.

Where: Corner of Sanlitun Nan Lu and Gongti Bei Lu

Open: 24 hours

Tel: 6500 4330

Day Off Disco Bar

Day Off is instantly noticeable at night because of its large, bright yellow sign, reportedly the largest on Sanlitun Bei Jie. Its indoor decor is designed to appeal to the cowboy fan and is styled to look like the American "Old West." Day Off is the street's only disco.

Where: 64, Sanlitun Bei Jie

Open: 6pm – 4 am next day

Tel: 6417 7210

J.M. Picture & Framing

The store shows famous pictures from Sweden, Germany, Italy and the Americas, and uses modern design and technology to mount each. It also has import, domestic and self-produced frames with about a thousand varieties.

Where: 2, Sanlitun Bei Jie

Open: 9 am – 10 pm

Tel: 6416 0182

YoYo Hotel

YoYo is a new hotel in the Sanlitun area. Its interior, clean and comfortable, was designed by a British artist. Its rooms rent for 1,000 to 2,400 yuan during the Olympic Games.

Where: Middle 10 building, Sanlitun east

Tel: 6417 3388

Fenglingdu Tailor

In this tailor shop, you can order different styles of Chinese clothes, and any other cut. Since the shop is in the embassy area, many foreigners come to order clothes. If you already have a pattern, just take your clothes to the shop. Call in advance if you need to make an appointment with the tailor.

Where: 1, Sanlitun Bei Xiaojie
Open: 10:30 am – 6:30 pm
Tel: 6463 1287

(By Jackie Zhang)

Continued on page 24...

... continued from page 23

Sanlitun Nan Lu**W Sports and Music**

Where: 120, Nan Sanlitun Lu

Open: 10 – 2 am next day

Tel: 6595 8039

Cross Club

Where: 78, Nan Sanlitun Lu

Open: 2 pm – 3 am next day

Tel: 6586 5277

Pink Loft

Where: 6, Nan Sanlitun Lu

Open: 11 – 2 am next day

Tel: 6506 8811

Secret Garden

Where: 6, Nan Sanlitun Lu

Open: 10 – 2 am next day

Tel: 6507 4890

Gold Barn

Where: 52A, Nan Sanlitun Lu

Open: 11 am – midnight

Tel: 6502 5142, 6507 0192, 8454 0064 or

8454 0264

Tom Yam Goong

Where: 58A, Nan Sanlitun Lu

Open: 11 am – midnight

Tel: 6502 5118, 6502 5122

(1) The Rickshaw Fine Dinner & Bar

Where: Corner of Sanlitun Nan Lu and

Gongti Bei Lu

Open: 24 hours

Tel: 6500 4330

Sanlitun Beijie**Skyline**

Where: 70, Sanlitun Bei Jie

Open: 9 am – 3 am next day

Tel: 6415 1558

Boys & Girls

Where: 68, Sanlitun Bei Jie

Open: 24 hours

Tel: 6416 6777

Lan Kwai Fong Bar

Where: 66, Sanlitun Bei Jie

Open: 10:30 am – 3 am next day

Tel: 6417 2589

(2) Day off Disco Pub

Where: 64, Sanlitun Bei Jie

Open: 6 pm – 4 am next day

Tel: 6417 7210

No 60 Bar

Where: 60, Sanlitun Bei Jie

Open: 10:30 am – before dawn

Tel: 6416 6414

Palm Beach

Where: 56, Sanlitun Bei Jie

Open: 9 am – 3 am

Tel: 6416 4191

Comma Bar

Where: 54, Sanlitun Bei Jie

Open: 9 am – 3 am next day

Tel: 6417 4643

Easy Day

Where: 36, Sanlitun Bei Jie

Open: 10 am – 2 am next day

Tel: 6417 6886

Sunshine Cafe

Where: 22, Sanlitun Bei Jie

Open: 2 pm – 2 am next day

Tel: 6416 4849

Downtown Cafe & Bar

Where: 26, Sanlitun Bei Jie

Open: 11 am – midnight

Tel: 6415 2100

Red Moon Bar

Where: 8, Sanlitun Bei Jie

Open: 10 am – 3 am next day

Tel: 6416 1633

(3) J.M. Picture & Framing

Where: 2, Sanlitun Bei Jie

Open: 9 am – 10 pm

Tel: 6416 0182

Middle 8

Where: Middle 8 building, Sanlitun East

Open: 11 am – 2 pm, 5:30 pm – 10 pm

Tel: 6413 0629

YoYo Hotel

Where: Middle 10 building, Sanlitun East

Tel: 6417 3388

(4) Cino's Pomodoro of Knights-bridge Italian Restaurant & Bar

Where: 81 building, Sanlitun Bei Jie

Open: 10 am – 2 am next day



Tel: 5208 6008

(5) St Andrews Golf Shop

Where: 43 building, Sanlitun Bei Jie Nan Lu

Open: 9 am – 9 pm

Tel: 8068 7415

Aperitivo

Where: 43, Sanlitun Bei Jie

Open: 10 am – 10 pm

Tel: 6417 7793

(6) Lovely Nails

Where: Room 102, first floor of Tongli, 43 building, Bei Sanlitun

Open: 9 am – 10 pm, Monday and Tuesday, 10:30 am – 10:30 pm, Wednesday to Sunday

Tel: 6417 5812

Fish Nation

Where: Sidelong street, Sanlitun

Open: 1 am – midnight

Tel: 6415 0119

Cost: 60 yuan per person

Butterfly

Where: Xie Jie, Sanlitun Bar Street

Open: 1 pm – midnight

Tel: 6417 6357

Kai Club

Where: Sanlitun Bei Jie, northwest of

Friendship Youth Hostel

Open: 6 pm – 4 am next day

Tel: 6416 6254

(7) Muri Carpet

Where: On the backside of Kai Club, Sanlitun Bei Jie

Open: 10 am – 7 pm

Tel: 6415 0729

Le Petit Paris

Where: 29, Sanlitun Bei Jie

Open: 11 am – 11 pm

Cappuccino Club

Where: 8, Dongzhimen Wai Dajie

Open: 10 am – 3 am next day

Tel: 6417 7035, 6413 0006

Sanlitun Xiwujie & Xiliujie**Athena**

Where: 1, Xiwu Jie, Sanlitun

Open: 11 am – 11 pm

Tel: 6464 6036

Serve the People

Where: 1, Xiwu Jie, Sanlitun

Open: 10:30 am – 10:30 pm

Tel: 8454 4580

Peterpan

Where: 1, Xiwu Jie, Sanlitun

Open: 11 am – 11 pm

Tel: 6465 1661

(8) Java & Yangon Indonesia & Myanmar Cuisine

Where: Next to Gold Barn, Xiwu Jie, Sanlitun

Open: 10:30 am – 2:30 pm, 4:30-10:30 pm

Tel: 8415 7489

(9) Fenglingdu Tailor

Where: 1, Sanlitun Bei Xiaojie

Open: 10:30 am – 6:30 pm

Tel: 6463 1287

Jenney Lou's

Where: 6, Sanlitun Bei Xiaojie

Open: 8 am – 10 pm

Tel: 6461 6928, 6462 1396

Panino Teca

Where: 1, Sanlitun Bei Xiaojie

Open: 9:30 am – 9:30 pm

Tel: 8454 1797

Umeysosi Japanese Restaurant

Where: 1, Sanlitun Bei Xiaojie

Open: 10 am – 10:30 pm

Tel: 5200 8833

Schindlers Anlegestelle

Where: 10, Sanlitun Bei Xiaojie

Open: 10 am – midnight

Tel: 6463 1108

(10) Indian Kitchen

Where: Second floor, 2, Sanlitun Bei Xiaojie

Open: 11:30 – 2:30 pm, 5:30 – 11 pm

Tel: 6460 9366, 6462 7255

Xiaoqingdao Seafood

Where: 8, Liangmahe Nan Lu

Open: 10:30 am – 2 pm, 5 – 10 pm

Tel: 6462 3151

Schiller's

Where: 1, Liangmahe Nan Lu, Sanlitun, south of Jingcheng Mansion

Open: 9 am – 1 pm

Tel: 6464 9061

Old Town Roses

Where: 1, Liangmahe Nan Lu, Sanlitun

Open: 11 am – 1 am

Tel: 6461 2689

(By Jackie Zhang)